FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 101

23 May 1979

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

AL-ANBA' Says 'Arafat To Halt PLO Raids Into Israel — A 1
PLO's Qaddumi Interviewed on Boycott of As-Sadat, SALT II [VOP] — A 1
'Arafat Receives Lebanese Nasirite Leader Qulaylat [VOP] — A 2
Tunis Committee Discusses Implementing Baghdad Decisions — A 2

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Arab States To Be Contacted on Renewing UN Sinai Mandate — C 1
Indian Foreign Minister Holds Talks With Amir — C 1
Vajpayee Criticism of Treaty — C 1
Vajpayee Ends Talks — C 2
Turkish Foreign Minister Discusses NATO, Arab Relations — C 3

OMAN

GULF NEWS AGENCY Reports Cabinet Reshuffle — C 3
Voice of Oman Carries Appeal to Egyptian Troops — C 4

SAUDI ARABIA

Cabinet Discusses Budget, Oil Prices 21 May — C 5

UAE

Indian Foreign Minister Arrives in Abu Dhabi — C 5

EGYPT

Military Talks With United States Open in Cairo — D 1
Cairo Radio on Forthcoming Autonomy Negotiations — D 1
AL-AHRAM Comment — D 1
Israel's Ben-Elisar Leaves After Visit — D 2
Ghali, Siilasvuo Discuss Extension of UNEF Mandate — D 3
DPA: Eight Egyptians Accused of Spying for Communist State — D 3
AL-AKHBAR on Possible Soviet Alliance With Syria, Iraq — D 3

IRAQ

Seminar Against 'Imperialist Interests' To Open 30 May — E 1
GDR Trade Union Delegation Arrives in Baghdad — E 1
QNA: Iraq To Purchase Plutonium From Brazil — E 1

JORDAN

AD-DUSTUR Criticizes U.S. Position on PLO [21 May] — F 1

LEBANON

Artillery Shelling Reported in South Lebanon G 1
Beirut Reports Norwegian Troops Force Israeli Retreat G 1
Syrian Armored Brigade Enters North in Rotation Move G 1

SYRIA

Czechoslovak President Husak Holds Talks with Al-Asad H 1
Further Delegation Talks H 1
Al-Asad Banquet Speech H 2

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Venezuelan Energy Minister Arrives in Algiers I 1
Calderon, Nebi Meet I 1
Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Arrives in Algiers I 1
Talks Begin I 2
DPFLP's Hawatimah Holds Press Conference in Algiers 17 May I 2
Concludes Visit I 2
President Bendjedid Receives GDR's Tisch I 3
Yahiaoui Meets Visitor I 3
APS Reports on FLN Party Congress Decision I 3
PDRY's Isma'il, Delegation Begin Talks in Algiers [Aden] I 4

LIBYA

JANA Denies Reported Meeting Between Libyan, Sudanese Officials I 5
PRC Islamic Delegation Concludes Visit, Departs I 5
JANA Editor Attacks 'Fake Alliance' in Chad I 5

MOROCCO

Boucetta Comments on Moroccan-Saudi Talks [Riyadh] I 6
Saudi Foreign Minister on Morocco, Sahara I 6

SUDAN

SUNA Reports on Numayri's 22 May Khartoum Press Conference I 8
Sudan To Receive Interest-Free OPEC Loan I 10
Tribunal Begins Trial of 45 Political Defendants I 10

TUNISIA

Nouira Meets PLO's Qaddumi on Mideast Developments [VOP] I 10

WESTERN SAHARA

Algiers Cites POLISARIO Leader on Mauritanian Stance I 10
Briefs: Moroccan-Polish Agreement I 11

ISRAEL

Begin Leaves for London, Comments on Political Developments N 1
HA'ARETZ Reports Details of Autonomy Plan Clauses [22 May] N 5
Knesset Committee Briefed N 6
Delegation Leaves for Cairo To Finalize Al-'Arish Preparations N 6
Ne'ot Sinai Settlers: We Were Asked To Remain N 7
Court Issues Interim Order N 7
Weizman Cuts Short Visit N 7
Sharon Demands Funds for 'Arava Settlement N 8
Jerusalem Radio Reports Exchanges of Fire in South Lebanon N 8

IRAN

Khomeyni Commends Islamic Bank's No-Interest Principle R 1
Khomeyni Receives Kordestan Leaders, DPRK Group R 1
Khomeyni Receives New Bangladesh Envoy in Qom R 1
Khomeyni Envoys Address Naqadeh Citizens on Separatism R 1
State Minister Comments on Economic, Fiscal Problems R 2
Tehran Cites Brown, Byrd on Executions, Javits R 3
Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq Criticizes Censorship R 4
Tehran Announces Start of Kurdish-Language Broadcast R 4
Dezful Demonstrators Express Support for Palestinians R 5
Tehran Cites IZVESTIYA Interview With Abadan Governor R 5
Oil Industry Officials Investigate Labor Problems in Khuzestan R 6
Party Holds Mass Meeting in Tabriz R 6
Tabriz University Chancellor Resigns R 6
Kermanshahan Guards Corps Being Formed R 7
Bushehr Revolutionary Strike Force Head Killed R 7
Official in Bushehr To Purge Revolution Committees R 7
Tehran Reports Further on Arrests, Sentencing R 8
Arrest of University Professor R 8
Police Officials Sentenced R 8
Babol Court Issues Sentences R 8
Zanjan Police Officers Sentenced R 9
Mashhad Court Issues Sentences R 9
Prosecutor Seeks Evidence Against 14 SAVAK Employees R 10
Presidential Aspirant Sees Persisting U.S. Danger to Iran R 10
[Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI 21 May]
London Paper: Shari'at-Madari Returns to Limelight R 12
[THE GUARDIAN 18 May]
Qotzbadeh Interviewed on Domestic, Foreign Issues R 14
[Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI 21 May]
Criticizes USSR, BBC, VOA R 17
NVOI Defends Verdicts of Revolutionary Courts R 17
NVOI: People Support Shah's Death Sentence R 19
Lur Tribal Chieftains Protest Slight R 20
[KEYHAN 16 May]

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Amin 2 May Interview With Foreign Newsmen Reported S 1
[Kabul TIMES 6 May]

Kabul TIMES Publishes Statement on Pakistani 'Aggression' [10 May] S 10

BANGLADESH

Burma President Ne Win Holds Talks With Zia S 10
Zia, Ne Win Banquet Speeches S 10
Foreign Minister Returns from Morocco Via Saudi Arabia S 11

INDIA

Sanjay Gandhi Arrested in Dehra Dun S 12
Indira Gandhi Calls For Janata Party Resignation S 12

NEPAL

Student Demands Met; Detainees To Be Freed S 12
Bista Warns Antisocial Elements in Press Conference S 13
AFP Gives Details S 14

PAKISTAN

UN Team Arrives To Study Aid for Afghan Refugees S 14
PRC Vice Minister for Industry Meets Defense Officials S 15
Li Yutang on Pakistani Friendship S 15
Leader of Pakistan Peoples Party Released S 16

SRI LANKA

Air Force Personnel Will Get Training From Pakistan S 16

AL-ANBA' SAYS 'ARAFAT TO HALT PLO RAIDS INTO ISRAEL

LD221630 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0752 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' today says sources close to the Palestinian revolution in Beirut have said that PLO head Yasir 'Arafat has decided to halt fedayeen operations which originate in southern Lebanon and strike at Israeli targets effective 1 June. It goes on to say that the decision by 'Arafat, which involves closing down almost the only exit by the fedayeen in attacking Israeli targets, has come about in order to facilitate the task of Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis in establishing national accord and in forming a new government to succeed the government of Dr Salim al-Huss.

PLO'S QADDUMI INTERVIEWED ON BOYCOTT OF AS-SADAT, SALT II

JN221904 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1640 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Interview granted by Faruq Qaddumi, chief of the PLO Political Department, to VOP radio correspondent; recorded--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Begin recording] [Question] Brothers, we are glad to have brother Abu al-Lutf, chief of the PLO Political Department, here with us today. We meet periodically with brother Abu al-Lutf, but between these various meetings new developments occur on the Arab and international levels. Brother Abu al-Lutf, among the most persistent issues of great interest to Palestinian diplomatic circles is that of As-Sadat's regime, on both the Arab and International levels. Is it possible to say now that the boycott currently being imposed on As-Sadat's regime is tight? What is the effect of this boycott on As-Sadat's regime and on his contacts with the Zionist enemy?

[Answer] We can say that the political boycott imposed on As-Sadat's regime by the Arab countries has achieved remarkable success to date. This political boycott began with the Arab foreign and economic ministers meeting in Baghdad and then extended to the Islamic conference in Fes.

[Question] Brother Abu al-Lutf, can you brief us on the achievements already accomplished with regard to the nonalined movement? You know of the forthcoming meetings of the coordinating ministerial committee, which will prepare the working agenda for the Havana summit. Is there any unified Arab step to be taken at this committee meeting?

[Answer] We will exert every possible effort at the level of the nonalined movement to cause adoption of the necessary measures and resolutions condemning the treaty. The success of this measure depends primarily on the African, Asian and Latin American countries. We will spare no effort in this regard.

[Question] Let us talk about another important issue, closely related to the Middle East issue. This is the issue of SALT II. Many believe that there is some kind of connection between SALT II and the Middle East, particularly given the signing of the treaty. How true is the talk about such a connection, and what will be the influence of SALT II on the Middle East situation?

[Answer] There is no doubt that the signing of SALT II will have great influence, not only on relations between the two superpowers, but on international relations and on other events and current world issues in general, whether in the Middle East, Southeast Asia or in Europe.

The signing of SALT II has definitely consolidated the detente policy, since SALT II will limit the production of strategic weapons. This means that the United States and the Soviet Union will cooperate to limit and control strategic weapons. This will reflect in U.S. and Soviet attitudes toward other issues, both in the Middle East and elsewhere. We will soon feel the influence of SALT II on international relations. We hope that the Middle East issue will be among the topics discussed at the forthcoming U.S.-Soviet summit. We hope that good international relations will move forward and grow stronger. We also hope that this agreement will further strengthen detente, a factor that can further consolidate world peace and stability. As a result of this, all important and persisting issues must be fully discussed at the summit. [end recording]

'ARAFAT RECEIVES LEBANESE NASIRITE LEADER QULAYLAT

JN221408 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, met yesterday with brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement, Al-Murabitun.

Our radio correspondent has learned that discussion during the meeting dealt with the local and Arab situation, with current developments in the area and with the situation in southern Lebanon and the repeated Zionist attacks on the Lebanese villages and Palestinian camps.

In a statement made at the end of the meeting, brother Qulaylat said: This meeting comes within the context of our constant contacts with brother Abu 'Ammar and the Palestinian leadership. Our primary goal at these meetings is to chart the best possible formulas for performing our tasks in the face of the most vicious onslaught against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. Our meeting dealt with the general situation, particularly in the southern Lebanese areas and the repeated Zionist attacks on Lebanon and its citizens. This, brother Qulaylat added, makes it incumbent upon us and the Palestinian revolution to find the necessary means of confronting the Zionist aggression.

TUNIS COMMITTEE DISCUSSES IMPLEMENTING BAGHDAD DECISIONS

LD222058 Tunis TAP in English 1558 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] Tunis, May 22, (TAP)--The Committee of the Six charged with carrying out the Baghdad conference decisions met Monday at the Arab League headquarters in Tunis within the framework of the second session of its proceedings started last April 12.

The session was presided over by Taieb Sahbani, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, in the presence of As'ad al-As'ad, Arab League interim secretary general, and representatives of Tunisia, Algeria, (?Saudi), Syria, Iraq and Kuwait. The committee started examining its agenda which include five items relating to the carrying out of the Baghdad conference decisions and the decisions taken by the committee during its previous session.

KUWAIT

ARAB STATES TO BE CONTACTED ON RENEWING UN SINAI MANDATE

LD221520 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1231 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Kuwait Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah stated today that his country will be contacting the other Arab countries to learn of their view on the subject of renewing the mandate of the UN peace force in Sinai.

Shaykh Sabah was speaking to journalists after a meeting he held with the Soviet ambassador here, Nikolay Sikachev, at the ambassador's request. Shaykh Sabah said that during the meeting the ambassador raised the subject of the renewal of the mandate for the international forces and the Soviet stance with regard to it. He said that Kuwait, which represents the Arab group on the Security Council, will contact the other Arab countries in general and Syria in particular to learn their attitude on the subject of the renewal.

Official sources have stated that the Syrian ambassador here, 'Izz ad-Din Nu'ayash, will be summoned to the Foreign Ministry tomorrow to meet Shaykh Sabah as a first step in these contacts.

INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS TALKS WITH AMIR

BK211253 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0832 GMT 21 May 79 BK

[Text] Minister of External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee called on the amir of Kuwait soon after his arrival in Kuwait on the morning of 20 May, starting his four-nation West Asia tour, reports AIR [All-India Radio]. The meeting lasted longer than planned and covered a wide range of subjects. Vajpayee said that though there had been a change of government in India, our policy of friendship towards Kuwait and support for the Arab cause remained unchanged. He also referred to improved relationship with Pakistan. Minister of External Affairs said that India would like to explore the possibility of a long-term agreement for importing oil from Kuwait.

The amir expressed the hope that improved relations between India and Pakistan would continue. Both leaders agreed that recent developments in Iran and Afghanistan should be internally resolved. India and Kuwait agreed that unity of the nonaligned movement must be preserved.

From Kuwait Vajpayee will visit the United Arab Emirates, Syria and Iraq. Talking to newsmen in New Delhi before his departure for Bombay en route to Kuwait the minister said that there could be no lasting peace in West Asia until there was a comprehensive settlement acceptable to all parties in the region. Such a settlement, he said, should include withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories and restoration of the legitimate rights of Palestinians. Vajpayee said he would visit some of the projects being built with India's assistance in these countries. He added he would take this opportunity to further strengthen India's relations with the Arab world. About the nonaligned movement, the minister said it was passing through a critical phase. But he expressed confidence that difficulties being faced by the movement would be overcome.

Vajpayee Criticism of Treaty

JN221237 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1030 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 22 May--Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Indian minister of external affairs, today criticized the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

He said that the treaty will not bring a lasting peace to the area. He also denied Arab press reports that India supported the treaty, which was concluded under U.S. auspices last March.

In a statement published here by the newspaper Kuwait TIMES today, Vajpayee excluded the possibility of a split in the nonalined movement if the nonalined countries turn down a possible Arab request to expel Egypt from the nonalined movement for concluding a separate peace agreement with Israel.

Vajpayee said in his statement to the English-language Kuwaiti paper that the United States has curtailed its military presence in the Indian Ocean.

Vajpayee said that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty has three basic shortcomings: It fails to provide for a total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab areas; it fails to provide for the restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people; and it fails to include any guarantee that Israel will abandon its expansionist designs and live in peace within established borders with its Arab neighbors.

The Indian minister explained that his country would like to see all UN resolutions on the Middle East implemented. He said: We want peace, not a partial solution.

Minister Vajpayee said that he does not expect the Arab countries which oppose the settlement treaty to go as far as ignoring the forthcoming nonalined countries summit, due to be held in Havana in September, or to decrease the level of their representation at the summit if the nonalined countries refuse to expel Egypt from the movement.

He expressed the hope that such an extreme step would not be adopted. He added: This is one reason for my visit to Kuwait as part of a tour during which I will also visit the UAE, Iraq and Syria.

The Indian minister said: The nonalined movement charter, which was adopted at the first summit in Belgrade in 1966, does not call for the expulsion of any member. He noted that there are continuous disagreements among the various nonalined countries, but said he is confident that this movement will be able to overcome such problems.

Asked about the military situation in the Indian Ocean, he said that during his recent visit to Washington, the U.S. Government assured him that it has no intention of increasing the U.S. military presence in the area and that the United States recently withdrew several vessels from the Indian Ocean following the settlement and unity treaty reached between the two Yemens.

The Indian minister for external affairs said his 3-day visit to Kuwait has contributed greatly to strengthening economic-technical relations between the two countries.

He also expressed the hope that Kuwaiti-Indian relations would continue to strengthen, particularly in light of the talks he held with Kuwaiti leaders. These talks, he said, dealt with the possibility of establishing joint projects supported mainly by Kuwaiti capital and Indian expertise.

Vajpayee Ends Talks

LD221645 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1213 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--India's Foreign Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee today concluded 3 days of talks with Kuwaiti leaders which dealt with the strengthening of bilateral cooperation and Middle East developments.

Vajpayee met with the minister of finance and acting minister of petroleum, 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Atiqi, who said the talks concentrated on financial and investment cooperation between the two countries.

Well-informed sources stated that the Indian minister, who this evening goes to Abu Dhabi, told Kuwaiti officials that his country did not support the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. However, it will not support any attempt to expel Egypt from the nonalined movement or suspend its membership in it for signing the treaty. The sources said Vajpayee will explain the Indian attitude to the governments of the United Arab Emirates, Iraq and Syria which he will be visiting after Kuwait.

TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES NATO, ARAB RELATIONS

JN221206 Doha QNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 22 May--Turkish Foreign Minister Gunduz Okcun has declared that his country's relations with Israel are official relations and cannot in any way be compared with the strong relations linking Turkey with the Arab and Islamic countries. In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM published today, Okcun said that his talks with senior Kuwaiti officials were positive and fruitful. He said the talks were focused on cooperation between the two countries in various economic, political and technical fields.

The Turkish minister, who concluded a 2-day visit to Kuwait yesterday, spoke about NATO and the differences between his country and the United States regarding NATO. He said that this alliance is on its way to dissolution [as received] and that his country is in the process of liquidating all material and administrative matters related to it.

Concluding his statement, Okcun affirmed that Turkey wants a solution of the Cyprus issue guaranteeing the rights of the two communities. He expressed hope that a summit meeting will take place soon between Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit and Greek Prime Minister Karamanlis to resolve the problems between the two countries, particularly the Cyprus issue.

OMAN

GULF NEWS AGENCY REPORTS CABINET RESHUFFLE

JN221909 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1855 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Text] Muscat, 22 May--Key changes were introduced in the ministerial and administrative organs in Oman this evening. Under the new arrangement, Fahar ibn Taymur Al Bu Sa'id, who was minister of youth affairs and deputy defense minister, has been appointed deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs; Fahd ibn Mahmud Al Bu Sa'id, who was minister of information and tourism, has been appointed deputy prime minister for legal affairs; Faysal ibn 'Ali Al Bu Sa'id, who was minister of national heritage, has been appointed minister of national heritage and culture; and Ahmad 'Abdallah al-Gahzali, minister of education, has been appointed minister of land and municipalities affairs.

Under the new arrangement, Dr 'Asim al-Jamali, who was minister of land and municipalities, has been appointed minister of environment affairs--a new ministry--Sa'id Ahmad ash-Shanfari, who was minister of agriculture, fisheries, petroleum and minerals, has been appointed minister of petroleum and minerals. Eng 'Abd al-Hafiz Salim, who was minister of communications until last June, has been appointed minister of agriculture and fisheries; Yahya Mahfuz al-Mundhuri, who was deputy governor of Dhofar region, has been appointed minister of education; and Badr ibn Su'ud Al Bu Sa'id, who was Omani ambassador in Cairo, has been appointed minister of the interior.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus has issued the following three decisions:

1. 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas, who was under secretary of the Ministry of Information and Tourism, has been appointed minister of information and youth affairs;

2. Muhammad ibn Ahmad, who was minister of the interior, has been appointed the sultan's adviser for religious and historic affairs;

3. Salim Ahmad Khalfan has been appointed under secretary of land and municipalities affairs.

VOICE OF OMAN CARRIES APPEAL TO EGYPTIAN TROOPS

LD221540 Aden Voice of Oman in Arabic 1545 GMT 20 May 79 LD/EA

[Excerpts] Here is an appeal to the Egyptian troops in Oman:

O heroes of the glorious July revolution; O you who smashed the myth and might of the archenemy of our Arab nation by your penetration of the Bar Lev line in the glorious October War, and you who, through your indomitable will and faith in the Arabism of Egypt's soil then desecrated by the banners of the Zionists, taught the Israeli generals lessons which were never to be forgotten:

From revolutionary Oman we speak to you. Through the voice of the revolution we address to you this appeal in our Arabic language and with a single pan-Arab spirit. We would like to greet you as our Arab brothers, not as enemies. The guns of our revolutionaries are used to being aimed at the enemies of our country, the lackeys of the agent Qabus and his clique, who benefit by the existence of his throne, and at the enemies of our Arab nation.

The deposed shah tried to protect Qabus' throne by means of his military power. However, (?his defeat) [words indistinct] and the victory of the people's revolution in Iran prevented the continued presence of the Iranian Army. To protect his throne [words indistinct] Qabus sought help from the traitor of the Arab nation, As-Sadat, who in turn sent you to Oman to wage war on your brothers in Arabism. Whom does it profit when an Arab fights his Arab brother? You know we are not killers but rather the possessors of a right and a cause. And you are not invaders because you are in an Arab country. However, we caution you that As-Sadat sent you to Oman as tools to implement some of the designs of his American masters.

Through his [word indistinct] conceit, (?he wants to be like) a pillar in the area in return for increased assets in dollars deposited in his name in the banks of Europe. As for you, you are paying the cost of that by sacrificing your blood [words indistinct] of your masses who have made and are still making sacrifices on the road of the revolution, creating more martyrs.

Do you know what is now happening in Arab Egypt? The number of fighters in the prisons of As-Sadat has doubled. The degree of terror has reached the point where there are roadblocks on the streets of Cairo and other Egyptian cities to search pedestrians and, very often, check on identities. However, the people of Egypt became used to these terrorist methods during the era of the monarchy. They resisted them valiantly until they achieved victory by unleashing the immortal 23 July revolution.

Your sons, brothers and relatives in the various universities of Cairo are raising their voices every day to condemn the treasonous accord for which As-Sadat alone has been paid.

By signing it, he trampled Arab dignity underfoot and sold Jerusalem. Yes, he sold Jerusalem to the enemy of our Arab nation, against whom you have waged holy wars. Thousands of you fell as martyrs in the liberation of our usurped territories. Remember that the As-Sadat who surrendered to the Zionists by signing the capitulatory accord in the same As-Sadat who sent you to wage war on your brothers in Arabism. He is the same As-Sadat who turned October's glorious victory into defeat by prohibiting the blocking of the Deversoir gap through which the Israeli Army managed to (?swoop down on) Egypt's 3d Army. The life of As-Sadat, the life of this agent As-Sadat, is full of pointers to treason and agentry in his master's cause. [passage indistinct]

SAUDI ARABIA

CABINET DISCUSSES BUDGET, OIL PRICES 21 MAY

LD221024 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] The Council of Ministers, chaired by His Royal Highness the Regent and Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al'-Aziz, met at 1900 today. The session ended at 2130. Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani told SNA after the meeting that the Council of Ministers devoted the session to reviewing budget details in light of the policy which the Council of Ministers approved with regard to expenditure, in preparation for the final budget which will be approved at the coming budget session, to be held as scheduled under His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

The Council of Ministers then heard a detailed report from His Highness Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, on the state of oil prices in international markets and the role being played by OPEC in fixing oil prices, and also on what the kingdom can do to realine prices to put an end to speculations which benefit some oil companies at the expense of both producer and consumer. The petroleum and mineral affairs minister explained the kingdom's concern for (?moderation) and for looking after the interests of the consumer countries, in particular the developing countries, and also the interests of OPEC member states.

Concluding, the information minister said that the council then discussed the state's expected oil revenue next year. It also heard a report from the minister of petroleum and mineral affairs in this regard.

UAE

INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI

JN222038 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 2025 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 May--Indian Foreign Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee arrived here from Kuwait this evening on a 3-day visit to the UAE.

While in Abu Dhabi, the Indian minister will convey a written message to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai.

MILITARY TALKS WITH UNITED STATES OPEN IN CAIRO

NC221456 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 22 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 22 May--Military talks were held at the Defense Ministry at noon today between Minister of Defense and War Production Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the deputy director of the U.S. Defense Security Assistance Agency, Erich von Marbod. During the 30 minute meeting, the Egyptian minister of defense and war production and the U.S. defense official discussed ways to strengthen military relations between the two countries. They also reviewed the measures and steps to be taken in the future to implement Egypt's requirements of U.S. weapons from the U.S. $1.5-billion loan to Egypt.

These talks are in continuation of the talks held in Washington in March between U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown and Egyptian Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

CAIRO RADIO ON FORTHCOMING AUTONOMY NEGOTIATIONS

NC2215747 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 May 79 NC

[Text] The negotiations on full autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza will open at 1400 this Friday in Beersheba. Delegations representing Egypt, the United States and Israel will participate in these negotiations. Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil will head the Egyptian delegation.

The negotiations will begin with a public session during which the heads of the three delegations will make speeches. Afterward, the negotiations will begin at a closed session.

An official source at the Foreign Ministry has stated that the aim of these negotiations is to establish full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza, that the negotiations will be a first step toward independence and that the Palestinians will express their views on self-determination.

The source added that the Arab Republic of Egypt has prepared many documents expressing its views on the activities of the negotiating committee and on the establishment of autonomy, the holding of elections and the measures necessary to provide the suitable atmosphere for these elections. The source further said that Egypt believes that an international body must supervise the elections, which must be carried out in an atmosphere of full freedom. He also said that the Arab Republic of Egypt does not distinguish between the sovereignty of land and of people. He said that the Palestinian authority is the constituent body which will prepare its views on the final system to be followed by the Palestinians.

The radio correspondent has learned that at the first session of the negotiations, agreement will be reached on the agenda, and various committees to discuss issues related to autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza will be formed. Furthermore, agreement will be reached on the venue of the forthcoming negotiations which will be held alternately in Ismailia or Al-'Arish and in Beersheba.

AL-AHRAM Comment

NC230902 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0626 GMT 23 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 23 May--AL-AHRAM reports today that Egypt has drawn up complete and defined views on the agenda of the autonomy negotiations, which will begin Friday among Egypt, Israel and the United States with a view to forming the first Palestine national council for full autonomy.

The paper says that Egypt has also suggested the formation of specialized committees from the U.S., Egyptian and Israeli delegations to discuss measures, to be adopted by Israel to foster trust in the occupied territory, which would include releasing political prisoners and suspending the establishment of settlements. The committees will also draw up the rules and basis for elections in the West Bank and Gaza; the jurisdiction and powers of the Palestine national council, which will be elected, and the security measures to be adopted.

AL-AHRAM says that Egypt will ask that the autonomy negotiations continue without interruption as agreed, alternately in Beersheba and Al-'Arish or in Ismailia, should conditions for these negotiations not be appropriate in Al-'Arish.

AL-AHRAM says that Egypt has prepared some proposals on the basis that the agenda includes the following important questions:

1. Measures for fostering trust: demanded by Egypt in the West Bank and Gaza, which Israel should take to restore the confidence to the Palestinian people, including releasing political prisoners, suspending the construction of settlements and withdrawing the Israeli forces--all procedural measures that can be adopted immediately to pave the way for the elections, the establishment of the Palestinian authority and the termination of the Israeli authority. Egypt has suggested that a tripartitie committee be set up to follow up the implementationof the principles and bases contained in the Egyptian memo. Presented to Israel at the Blair House discussions last October and reconfirmed at the second Camp David meeting in March.

2. The rules and bases for holding the elections: Egypt suggests holding negotiations among the three sides to define how the elections should be held, the system and objectives of these elections and the atmosphere in which they will be held, as well as the international guarantees which must be made available--either by entrusting a body, elected by the United Nations, with supervision of the elections--or a neutral international body assuming this responsibility.

3. The jurisdictions and powers of the Palestinian rule: Egypt suggests that a definition be made of both the jurisdictions and powers to be given to the Palestine national council, to be elected by the Palestinian people, and of its relations with the Israeli authority, which will be terminated upon the establishment of the Palestinian authority.

4. Mutual security measures: Security measures will be adopted in order to provide security for the Palestinian people while taking into consideration the Israeli security situation. These willbe mutual measures, taking the security of all parties into account.

AL-AHRAM says that Egypt will also raise the question of Palestinian refugees, who left the West Bank and Gaza, and the evacuees from these areas and how they might take part in the elections and the next stages of negotiations, and how to ascertain their views. Discussions will also be held on the military arrangements for the withdrawal of Israeli forces, defining their positions, their number and type of weapons.

ISRAEL'S BEN-ELISAR LEAVES AFTER VISIT

NC221727 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1712 GMT 22 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 22 May--Elyahu Ben-Elisar, director of Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's office, left this evening for Israel after a 5 and 1/2-hour visit to Cairo. He was seen off at the airport by Presidential Office Director Hasan Kamil.

GHALI, SIILASVUO DISCUSS EXTENSION OF UNEF MANDATE

NC221730 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1714 GMT 22 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 22 May--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has received General Siilasvuo, United Nations Emergency Force [UNEF] general coordinator in the Middle East.

It has been learned that at this meeting, the conversation touched on the extension of the UNEF mandate in Sinai. This mandate expires on 24 July.

DPA: EIGHT EGYPTIANS ACCUSED OF SPYING FOR COMMUNIST STATE

NC221521 Cairo DPA in Arabic 1450 GMT 22 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 22 May--Sources in Cairo have stated that eight Egyptians, including two journalists and two leftist candidates for parliament, are currently being interrogated on charges of forming an underground cell and spying for an embassy of a communist state.

The weekly newspaper ASH-SHA'B, organ of the opposition Socialist Labor Party, published the report, which has been confirmed by reliable sources.

It has been reported that those being interrogated include Layla al-Jabali, a journalist with the daily newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH; Nabih az-Zaki, a journalist with the daily newspaper AL-AKHBAR, and Ahmad Taha, a former member of parliament and an independent candidate in the upcoming parliamentary elections.

It has also been reported that Hamdi Mursi, a leftist candidate for parliament in the city of Alexandria, is also being interrogated. The names of the four other accused are not known yet.

AL-AKHBAR ON POSSIBLE SOVIET ALLIANCE WITH SYRIA, IRAQ

NC230841 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0635 GMT 23 May 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] Cairo, 23 May--AL-AKHBAR comments on Moscow radio's report yesterday which quoted Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Iraqi President Hasan al-Bakr as having requested an alliance with the USSR and the socialist countries.

The paper says that, if anything, such utterances indicate the USSR's bankruptcy in implementing its designs among the Arabs--to the point where it can only rely on Al-Asad, the Alawite, and Al-Bakr of Tikrit.

On the other hand, the paper notes the violent attacks by Moscow radio on Egypt, the return of Al-'Arish and the negotiations on autonomy.

The paper adds: This is the USSR's attitude toward each step taken by Egypt along the road to an overall settlement and the establishment of a just peace. This is because in the Soviet view, any step that brings peace closer makes Soviet designs and greed unattainable and destroys the fortress which the USSR seeks to erect by fishing in muddy waters at the Arabs' expense.

The paper concludes that the USSR seems to be aware of its isolation and that it has found no one to cite as desiring an alliance with it except Al-Asad and Al-Bakr.

SEMINAR AGAINST 'IMPERIALIST INTERESTS' TO OPEN 30 MAY

JN221335 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1235 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 22 May--A seminar on ways to confront imperialist interests in the Arab homeland will begin here on 30 May. The seminar has been organized by the Arab People's Conference Permanent Secretariat, in cooperation with the Arab economists federation and the Iraqi economists society.

During the 5-day seminar, in which Iraqi and Arab economists will participate, research papers will be delivered on ways of stopping the flow of Arab funds into the imperialist countries, on the dollar crisis, on a unified Arab stand, on analytical studies of the reciprocal effect of oil and wheat in Arab strategy, on the economic effects that might result from Zionist relations with the As-Sadat regime and their repercussions on the Arab economy, particularly the Egyptian economy.

Research papers will also deal with both direct and indirect economic benefits that the Zionist economy will accrue as a result of the open door policy. In addition, research papers will deal with ways of strengthening economic cooperation among third world countries, in order to face the effects of the imperialist countries' technology on the growth of the developing countries' export, in terms of changing their production frameworks, confronting the multinational companies and liquidating their businesses in the Arab and developing countries.

GDR TRADE UNION DELEGATION ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN221655 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 22 May--Harry Tisch, Central Committee Politburo member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and chairman of the National Executive Committee of the Free German Trade Union Federation, [FDGB] in the GDR, arrived here this evening leading an FDGB delegation on a visit of several days to Iraq.

Tisch expressed his pleasure at visiting Iraq and meeting with the officials at the Iraqi General Federation of Trade Unions. He praised the relations of cooperation linking the two federations and expressed the hope that the visit will contribute to developing the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries' workers.

QNA: IRAQ TO PURCHASE PLUTONIUM FROM BRAZIL

JN221052 Doha QNA in Arabic 0935 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 22 May--Citing authoritative sources in Washington, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS reports today that a secret agreement was reached between Iraq and Brazil during the visit of Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-din Ma'Ruf. According to the agreement Iraq can obtain from Brazil the plutonium necessary for the production of nuclear weapons. The agreement also covers military cooperation. The sources added that Iraq pledged to finance several local industries in Brazil.

The sources explained that Iraq chose to obtain its plutonium requirements from Brazil on the advice of the French Government, so as to avoid embarrassment in the face of the United States, which has objected to French-Iraqi cooperation in the nuclear field.

AD-DUSTUR CRITICIZES U.S. POSITION ON PLO

JN210927 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 21 May 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The United States and the Palestinians: Is it a Crisis of Confidence or of Dialog?:, the newspaper AD-DUSTUR says: President Carter said again yesterday that his country will not talk to the PLO unless the PLO recognizes Israel's right to exist. The day before yesterday, Menahem Begin called on Jordan to enter into peace negotiations with Israel, provided that Jordan does not request Israel to evacuate the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. There is a relationship between the two events. By this we mean that Israel, for reasons of its own, and the United States, because of its pro-Israeli policy, do not want to negotiate with the PLO on the future of the Palestinians. Therefore, they are looking for an alternate negotiator; namely, Jordan. If Jordan, because of its ethics and realism, refuses to play this game, they will call it an advocate of war and an obstacle in the way of peace. While we understand the reasons behind Israel's refusal to recognize the PLO as a legitimate representative of the Palestinians, and while we understand Israel's refusal to establish a Palestinian state on the pretext that this state will constitute a military threat to Israel, we say that we are completely incapable of understanding why a superpower such as the United States, which is supposed to be free to decide its foreign policy, adopts the Israeli position in a way which lacks intelligence and self-respect. Thus the United States also refuses to recognize the PLO and makes PLO recognition of Israel conditional for talking to the PLO.

AD-DUSTUR adds: The strangest thing about the U.S. position toward the PLO is that it is not an American position, but a completely Israeli position. There is absolutely no reason why the United States cannot conduct a dialog with the PLO, except that Israel is preventing the United States from doing so. In contemporary international relations we do not know of any case where a small country is preventing a superpower from simply talking with a third party, with the exception of this unique and strange case where Israel is preventing Washington from conducting an official dialog with the Palestinians

AD-DUSTUR continues: Perhaps the most confusing thing in Washington's position is that at a time when the United States admits that resolving the Palestine issue is the key to a lasting peace in the Middle East, it refuses to talk to the only legitimate side qualified to discuss the solution; namely, the PLO. How can we understand this contradiction in the U.S. position toward the Palestinians, and why should the Palestinians be requested to recognize Israel's right to exist as a precondition for talks, while Israel is not requested to recognize the Palestinians and their right to self-determination as a precondition?

AD-DUSTUR concludes: In its attempts to resolve the Palestinian issue, the United States is trying to enter through closed backdoors and refuses to enter through the wide door--the door of the PLO. Such attempts will continue to be futile for the United States in the future. The United States has declared its readiness to be a full partner in the autonomy talks. However, the Palestinians, who know about the U.S. partnership with As-Sadat and Begin in the Sinai, are afraid that this suspect partnership will only serve Israel's interests. Therefore, the Palestinians are reluctant to fall into the trap of autonomy. Washington's crisis with the Palestinians is essentially a crisis of confidence rather than of dialog.

ARTILLERY SHELLING REPORTED IN SOUTH LEBANON

NC221312 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 22 May 79 NC

[Text] The towns of An-Nabatiyah and Kafr Rumman and neighboring villages were subjected to heavy artillery shelling this morning. The villages of Ramadiyah, (name indistinct) and Ra's al-'Ayn were also subjected to heavy shelling. There were no casualties, but there was extensive damage.

BEIRUT REPORTS NORWEGIAN TROOPS FORCE ISRAELI RETREAT

NC230710 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 23 May 79 NC

[Text] Several villages in southern Lebanon are still being subjected to Israeli shelling, while Kafr Shuba is being severely threatened. In the Shab'a area an Israeli patrol attempted to penetrate the town, but was intercepted and forced to retreat by the Norwegian forces. The UN barrier near Shab'a has been consolidated, by order of the commander of the Norwegian contingent, to protect the town.

SYRIAN ARMORED BRIGADE ENTERS NORTH IN ROTATION MOVE

NC221747 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 22 May 79 NC

[Text] A Syrian armored brigade has entered northern Lebanon through Al-'Abbudiyah. The brigade consists of 80 tanks, 120 trucks and 10 rocket launchers.

It has been learned that the entry of the Syrian armored brigade is part of the rotation process for the Syrian forces serving with the Arab Deterrent Forces.

CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT HUSAK HOLDS TALKS WITH AL-ASAD

JN221514 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1435 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Excerpts] Damascus, 22 May--Official talks between President Hafiz al-Asad and CSSR President Gustav Husak began at 1030 today.

During the meeting, Syrian-CSSR relations and means of strengthening them were discussed. A review was made of the situation in the Middle East and Europe.

At the beginning of the meeting, his excellency the president welcomed President Husak and his accompanying delegation. President Husak then spoke, praising Syria's role and President al-Asad's efforts in strengthening Arab steadfastness. He conveyed the greetings of the Czechoslovak leadership and people to his excellency the president. He expressed his high appreciation of the Syrian people's courageous struggle under President Hafiz al-Asad's leadership. He also praised Syria's principled line on the Arab and international levels and hailed Syria's stand at the Baghdad summit conference, which passed firm resolutions against the separate peace treaty.

President Husak confirmed Czechoslovakia's firm stand in support of the just Arab struggle and the Arab stand, which is based on bringing about a comprehensive peace through total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and recognition of the Palestinian people's rights. President Husak also expressed Czechoslovakia's desire to boost and expand cooperation with Syria.

President Hafiz al-Asad thanked him for this review, which also included the European situation. He affirmed that Syria's and Czechoslovakia's objectives are quite congruent, if not identical.

His excellency the president outlined the achievements brought about in Syria and spoke at length on developments in the Arab situation, particularly in the wake of the treaty of capitulation signed between the Egyptian regime and the enemy. He also spoke about the U.S. role in this treaty. He stressed the Arab nation's determination to stand fast and to struggle against the conspiracy to which it is now being subjected. He also referred to the Egyptian regime's increasing isolation.

His excellency the president said that victory is always scored by the people. We believe in the inevitability of our triumph, because we are determined to defend our rights and are confident of our friends' continuing support for our just cause.

President Husak will visit President Hafiz al-Asad in Ad-Dimashqiyah Hall this evening. The visit will be followed by an official dinner, hosted by his excellency the president in honor of President Husak.

Further Delegation Talks

JN222017 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Text] At 1800 today, talks were held in the Foreign Ministry building between the Syrian side under 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and the Czechoslovak side under Bohuslav Chnoupek, minister of foreign affairs.

During this session, a discussion was held on bilateral relations and on the most important current international issues, especially the Middle East issue and new developments in the region.

The SANA correspondent has learned that the talks were permeated with an extremely cordial atmosphere and were characterized by understanding. There was complete agreement of viewpoints on all topics discussed.

In another development, the Syrian side under Jamil Shayya, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and the Czechoslovak side under Josef Korcak, Czechoslovak deputy premier, held a meeting in the prime minister's office this evening. During this meeting talks were held on the two countries' economic and trade relations. These talks were held within the framework of the visit paid to Syria by Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The talks dealt with the most important topics related to signing a trade protocol for 1980 and 1981, as well as with bilateral scientific and technical cooperation. They also dealt with matters related to Czechoslovakia's purchase of a certain amount of Syrian phosphate. The two sides also discussed the subject of setting up a number of industrial projects in Syria as part of a specific program to be agreed upon with the Czechoslovak side.

The meeting took place in an atmosphere of friendship, understanding and a spirit of cooperation between the two friendly delegations.

Al-Asad Banquet Speech

JN230855 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Text of speech by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad at Damascus dinner for CSSR President Gustav Husak on 22 May--read by announcer]

[Text] Dear friend and esteemed President, dear Czechoslovak friends, gentlemen: It gives me great pleasure to welcome, on behalf of our people and the command of our party and in my own name, President Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Czechoslovak Republic, as a dear friend in our country and a stanch supporter of our cause, the highest representative of the Czechoslovak people, whom we greatly respect and highly value. I also welcome our dear guests, the members of the Czechoslovak party and government in the accompanying party, and I take this opportunity to express the friendly feelings the Syrian people have for the Czechoslovak people and our satisfaction with the existing cooperation between the two countries in various fields.

Your presence in our capital reminds us of our pleasant and successful visit to your capital and other areas in your beautiful country. Your presence also reminds us of our fruitful meetings during that visit and its good results in strengthening bilateral relations.

I still remember during our stay in Prague your quoting a philospher who, when asked about the quickest way to establish a strong and permanent friendship, answered that it depends on how the people go about establishing this friendship. We view our meetings on the leader level and the other meetings between Syria and Czechoslovakia as the right way to strengthen our friendship, particularly since our relations are based on sincerity and on commitment to the principles we both believe in.

I am convinced that your visit will further strengthen these relations and expand the cooperation between our two peoples.

Esteemed President: In the 3 years since our visit to Czechoslovakia, major changes and developments have taken place in our area and the world. Regarding developments in this area, the first signs had begun to appear at that time. Perhaps you remember our assessment then that the Sinai agreement was an approach to a separate peace between the Egyptian regime and Israel encouraged and supported by the United States. We had no doubts the Sinai agreement was a plot aimed at dividing the Arab front by isolating Egypt from the Arab nation and removing it from the conflict so as to permit taking on the other confrontation countries unilaterally.

Despite the fact that the parties to the Sinai agreement denied the aims of the plan at that time, and despite the fact that the Egyptian regime tried to present the agreement to the Arabs and world public opinion as a gain for Egypt and a step toward peace, subsequent developments proved our analysis and fears were sound. These developments also clearly proved that the agreement was a forerunner of the Camp David agreements and the capitulatory peace agreement the Egyptian regime signed with Israel.

The plan prepared by the parties to this plot was based on the need for a period of time before embarking on a separate peace. They wanted to prepare the atmosphere. They also believed that time and the fait accompli would make the Arabs accept this capitulatory policy. They anticipated that concessions and the relinquishment of pan-Arab rights, primarily territory and the Palestinian people's rights, would follow.

There is no need for me to go into the details of this treaty, because you know our views on it and agree with us in our assessment. The treaty relinquishes Egypt's independence because it fetters that dear fraternal country with shackles that stab the core of its sovereignty. The treaty relinquishes the Arab right to the occupied territory and ignores the Palestinian people's rights for an incomplete and distorted sovereignty over Sinai and under conditions that do not insure pride and equality.

After the Sinai agreement and during my meeting with you in Prague, I said that a big campaign aimed at misleading the Arabs was being carried out in our area. That campaign culminated in the signing of a humiliating peace. But the aims of the campaign have now been revealed; thereby setting in motion actions to confront this misleading campaign.

The actions of the Camp David parties and the capitulatory separate agreement have exposed their intentions and unmasked the truth of their aims. While they were celebrating the signing of the treaty in Washington, aggressive Israeli arms were spreading death and destruction in Lebanon and the Palestinian camps. This was followed by a series of threats against several Arab countries. These threats came in various forms by the parties to the plot. In all its acts Israel was loyal to fulfilling its aggressive principles and its firm stands based on arrogance and intransigence. Israel announced through its prime minister its three "nos": No return of Arab Jerusalem to its legitimate owners; no withdrawal from the Arab territory occupied in 1967; and no right for the Palestinian people to establish a state on their land.

Allow me to repeat what I said in Prague, that those who are implementing this plan are making a mistake if they think their success in deactivating a part of the Arab nation's body will lead to the deactivation of the other parts.

They ignore the rules of nature that assert that the other organs of the body will respond by creating new conditions appropriate to the new situation to compensate for the loss of a part. This is what has happened. The Arab countries appealed to each other to adopt a steadfast stand to confront the plot. The Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation held three conferences. Iraqi-Syrian rapprochement on the road to unity emerged. Arab unanimity was achieved at the ninth Arab summit conference in Baghdad and at the Arab foreign and economic ministers conference, which convened to implement the summit resolutions. Implementation of these resolutions has begun gradually to confront this onslaught and to keep Arab pride and rights.

Our nation's steadfastness and solidarity will serve the aim of just peace. Peace cannot be achieved with the presence and continuation of aggression. Thus the real path to peace is the one we are constantly calling for; namely, the elimination of aggression to liberate the occupied Arab territory and to recognize the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to determine their future and to establish a state in their homeland.

Peace will not be achieved through separate deals or conferences aimed at covering up these separate deals. At a time when no possibility of achieving peace in the near future exists in view of the developments that have taken place, we stress our adherence to the aim of peace and to the United Nations as an organization and its resolutions as a way to peace.

While proceeding on this course, we look to the future with optimism justified by our determination to defend our just cause, and by conviction that we have many friends in the world who support justice, work for peace, and accordingly support our just struggle. It pleases us that Czechoslovakia is in the vanguard of these friends. We appreciate and are grateful for the stand of Czechoslovakia and the rest of the socialist bloc supporting the Arab nation's struggle and rights.

Mr President, friends and gentlemen: We in Syria and Czechoslovakia are standing together in defense of the peoples' right to determine their future and to safeguard their independence and of their right to make use of their resources and to exclude threats to peace. We in the two countries support the United Nations, the strengthening of its role and international detente. We support disarmament as an aim to enable nations to devote themselves to internal construction and peaceful coexistance.

As a member in the nonalined countries group we in Syria have done our utmost to achieve these aims and to support liberation movements and resist aggression. We know that the activities of the nonalined movement are appreciated by the socialist countries and all peace-loving countries in the world. Regarding bilateral relations in party, political, economic and cultural fields, their steady development is satisfactory. Our people appreciate the sincere cooperation of your people in our joint development projects. Our people follow the achievements and success of your country with pleasure and hope you will attain further successes.

We began our talks today, as expected, in a friendly and sincere atmosphere. The talks are a new assertion that we are proceeding on the right path to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our countries. I am convinced that your visit will contribute further to strengthening these ties and to bolstering our bilateral cooperation. In conclusion, it gives me great pleasure to greet my dear friend, President Gustav Husak, and to wish him continued good health and happiness. It also pleases me to greet our Czechoslovak friends and Syrian-Czechoslovak friendship.

ALGERIA

VENEZUELAN ENERGY MINISTER ARRIVES IN ALGIERS

LD212331 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Excerpts] Dr Humberto Calderon Berti, the Venezuelan minister of energy and mines, arrived in Algiers this afternoon carrying a message from Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins to President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN.

Dr Calderon said that the purpose of his visit is to lay the basis for wider cooperation between Venezuela and OPEC countries.

Calderon, Nebi Meet

LD221400 Algiers APS in English 1009 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 22/05/79 (APS)--Mr Belkacem Nebi, a Central Committee member and minister of energy and petrochemical industries had talks Monday afternoon with Mr Humberto Calderon Berti, Venezuelan energy and mines minister, who arrived yesterday on a several day visit.

The talks between the two ministers centered on issues within OPEC's authority with a view to defining a common stand.

Mr Calderon Berti, who had declared upon arrival that the object of his visit was to lay the basis of a wider cooperation between Venezuela and other OPEC countries, also said that his recent touring in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Iran made it possible for him to meet a very firm will of safeguarding OPEC's unity.

He also told the press that during his visit in these countries he had talks on relations with his country and the oil pricing problem.

On cooperation between OPEC and Third World oil non-producing countries, Mr Calderon Berti said that OPEC had made big efforts to help through the 1,500 million dollar [words indistinct] countries. He said his country was favoring an increase of the fund.

In this respect, the Venezuelan minister said that some countries attacked OPEC in the 5th UNCTAD at present taking place in Manila whereas OPEC's aid to Third World countries is more important than that of industrialized countries.

Mr Humerto Calderon Berti is the bearer of a message from the Venezuelan head of state, Mr Luis Herrera Campins, to President Chadli Bendjedid.

CUBAN VICE FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN ALGIERS

LD211014 Algiers APS in Arabic 0700 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 21 May--Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Rene Anillo Capote arrived in Algiers yesterday afternoon. He was welcomed at the airport by Secretary General of the Algerian Foreign Ministry Maysum Subayh and a number of senior officials.

The Cuban vice minister, who is accompanied by an important political delegation, will hold talks with Maysum Subayh at 1000 today and will also meet with Mohamed Benyayia, member of the party's Political Bureau and foreign minister.

Talks Begin

LD220918 Algiers APS in English 1538 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 21/05/79 (APS)--Algerian and Cuban talks started this morning on problems concerning the two parties and the preparation of non-aligned summit due in Havana next September. Maysum Subayh, secretary general of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, head of the Algerian delegation declared the meeting very fruitful for the consolidation of the relations between the two countries.

Mr Rene Anillo Capote, first vice-minister of Cuban foreign affairs expressed his satisfaction for the friendly relations between Algeria and Cuba, and recalled the role played by Algeria within the non-aligned movement.

DPFLP'S HAWATIMAH HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS 17 MAY

LD191746 Algiers APS in English 1547 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 18/5/79 (APS)--"As-Sadat's treason and his withdrawal from the battlefield led to a dangerous situation, stressed by recrudescence of Zionist aggressions, but thanks to our solidarity, our guns, we'll triumph, as the Algerian masses did, in defeating North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO's) forces", Mr Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of Palestine's DPFLP, declared Thursday in a press conference, held in Algiers.

Drawing a parallel between the struggles in Palestine and Africa, especially Western Sahara, Mr Hawatimah said that Morocco and Mauritania attempt but unsuccessfully to disperse the Saharan people and to ignore his national identity. The failure is close to that one of the (colonizer) in Zimbabwe.

The Palestine people's victory lies in all the forces and the Palestinian revolution's unity within a united national front, in the framework of Fatah Organization. This victory lies within the alliance of our revolution with the Arab and international progressive forces, particularly of Africa, Mr Hawatimah concluded.

Concludes Visit

LD211046 Algiers APS in Arabic 0700 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Excerpts] Algiers, 21 May--Secretary General of the DPFLP Nayif Hawatimah left Algiers yesterday afternoon at the end of his 6-day visit during which he was received by President of the Republic Chadli Bendjedid and Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui, member of the FLN Political Bureau and party coordinator.

Before leaving, Hawatimah said: I am leaving revolutionary Algeria after fraternal, positive and fruitful talks with President Chadli Bendjedid and party coordinator Muhammad Salah Yahiaoui on the situation in the Arab world in general and the Palestine question in particular following As-Sadat's capitulationist crime and his coming talks with the Israelis on autonomous administrative rule for the West Bank and Gaza. These talks due to open on 27 May in Beersheba, the town occupied in 1948.

Our talks with the Algerian revolution leaders, he said, confirmed the identity of the stands of the Palestinian and Algerian revolutions against American imperialist designs, which seek to impose the domination of As-Sadat and Israel over the Middle East and eliminate the Palestine question.

We have agreed on the need to intensify the boycott of As-Sadat's regime and link this with a boycott of imperialism and its solutions. It was also agreed that we should stand together in the face of the Zionist plot against Lebanon, where Israel is plotting to enlarge "the state" Sa'd Haddad is trying to set up in southern Lebanon and to encourage the fascist forces in Lebanon to detonate a new civil war against the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese democratic forces.

It was also agreed to provide support for the Palestinian revolution forces to enable them to defend themselves when the need arises and counter the second round of the Camp David agreement.

Hawatimah added: We also agreed to call on the Arab states, particularly the member countries of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, to draw up a unified Arab plan to foil this great plot.

PRESIDENT BENDJEDID RECEIVES GDR'S TISCH

LD201655 Algiers APS in English 1035 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[Excerpt] Algiers, 20 May APS-President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of F.L.N. Party, received Saturday Mr Harry Tisch, member of the Socialist Unity Party Plitburo and president of the German Free Trade Unions Confederation (FDGB).

Mr Tisch is presently at the head of a delegation from his country on a formal visit to Algeria.

Mr. Demene Debbih Abdellah, secretary general of the Workers' Union (UGTA) attended the audience.

Yahiaoui Meets Visitor

LD210956 Algiers APS in English 1530 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 20/05/79 (APS)--Mr Mohamed Salay Yahiaoui, Politburo member and coordinator of the National Liberation Front (FLN) met today with Mr Harry Tisch, member of German Unified Socialist Party's Politburo and chairman of German Free Trade Unionists Confderations' committee.

The two parties reviewed bilateral relations and underlined the need to reinforce and enlarge cooperation in all fields, especially in vocational training.

The meeting was also attended by Mr Demen Debbih, FLN CC member and secretary general of Algerian workers' organisation (UGTA) and GDR's ambassador to Algeria.

APS REPORTS ON FLN PARTY CONGRESS DECISIONS

LD202316 Algiers APS in English 1019 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 20/05/79 (APS)--Participants in the conference held recently and which gathered the party cadres of Algiers Wilaya, adopted the following political resolution they ased for:

The implementation of the national charter in its spirit--to assure the implementation of the fourth F.L.N. congress decisions and orientations--the watching over severity [as received] in the choice of people expected to reinforce the party and mass organisations--the insertion of the ideological and intellectual training within the important party's tasks--the putting 'the right man in the right place' in all political and administrative levels--to watch over revolutionary rigor in the field of control and to work for the elimination of nepotism and bribery--the participants in the conference denounced all the attempts to hit at the Algerian revolutions--the aggression and expansionism policy of the monarchist regime in Western Sahara--the military alliances' policy in the region and the African Continent--the capitulative policy of Cairo's regime and the racial segregation policy in Africa and the Third World.

The participants expressed their support to the political leadership of the country, to the peoples struggling for their independence in Palestine, Western Sahara, to the progressive forces in Egypt, Lebanon, and to all the peoples struggling against imperialism, reaction and colonialism in the world.

PDRY'S ISMA'IL, DELEGATION BEGIN TALKS IN ALGERIA

LD221036 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 May 79 LD/EA

[Excerpts] Official talks between the PDRY delegation led by Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and chairman of the People's Supreme Council, and that of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, led by Brother Chadli Bendjedid, secretary general of the Algerian National Liberation Front [FLN] and president of the Republic of Algeria, opened in Algiers this morning. The radio reporter accompanying the delegation reports that the two sides discussed relations between the two fraternal states and ways of developing them. They also discussed issues of mutual interest.

Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il referred to his visit to Algeria in a press statement saying that his visit to fraternal Algeria would serve to strengthen relations between the two fraternal states in the interests of the aims of the Yemeni and Algerian revolutions and the Yemeni and Algerian peoples and also consolidate the Arab steadfastness and rejection front to enable it to stand fast against the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat tripartite alliance, which bred the treaty of treason and surrender between the As-Sadat regime and that of the Zionist enemy at the behest of U.S. imperialism with the aim of bringing about the destruction of the prime Arab cause--the cause of Palestine.

Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il expressed confidence that his talks with the leaders of the Algerian revolution would produce positive results. He stressed that the struggle linking our two peoples and peoples [words indistinct] would not only (?succeed in advancing) the correct course--the course of social development--but would also support Arab and world liberation movements.

Last night the president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria gave a dinner in honor of Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il and the delegation accompanying him, which was attended by a number of FLN leaders, ministers and diplomats accredited to Algeria.

LIBYA

JANA DENIES REPORTED MEETING BETWEEN LIBYAN, SUDANESE OFFICIALS

LD220844 Tripoli JANA in English 1749 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, May 21, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Quoting Foreign Secretariat sources JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY stated that the news reported by the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY about a meeting between the foreign secretary and Mr. ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr, the Sudanese vice-president and minister of foreign affairs, was groundless.

The sources of the Foreign Secretariat also denied the arrival of Mr. ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr in the Jamahiriyah and said that he left the Jamahiriyah on 13th May after a two-day visit.

PRC ISLAMIC DELEGATION CONCLUDES VISIT, DEPARTS

LD221136 Tripoli JANA in English 0810 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, May 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Islamic Chinese delegation left Tripoli yesterday after a visit to the Jamahiriyah which lasted several days. Some members of the Islamic Call Society in the Jamahiriyah and the charge d'affaires at the Chinese Embassy saw the delegation off.

The deputy chairman of the Islamic Chinese Society and member of the People's Council and head of the Islamic Chinese delegation made a statement to our correspondent praising the role played by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and by the leader of the Great 1st of September Revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in supporting Islam and Muslims all over the world and upholding their cause.

He stressed the importance of increased acquaintance and cooperation between the Chinese Muslims and people and the Muslim Arab people of the Jamahiriyah.

JANA EDITOR ATTACKS 'FAKE ALLIANCE' IN CHAD

LD181738 Tripoli JANA in English 1425 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, May 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The editor for African affairs at the JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY described the fighting in Chad between the forces of Goukouni Ouaddeimi and those of Hissene Habre as an expected result of the fake alliance they had set up in the form of the illegal fascist government imposed on the people of Chad.

The editor added: "The development of events in Chad have always shown both Goukouni Ouaddeimi and Hissene Habre to have been driven by ambition to take over power and control the Chadian people".

Referring to the two leaders' fanatic tribal stands and intransigence during the second Kano conference, the editor said: "At the time when all African parties and the revolutionary factions in Chad were eager to ensure Chad's interest and unity and to seek a practical settlement which could achieve the Chadian people's aims, Ouaddeimi and Habre opposed these endeavours, thus showing their true colours to Africa and the whole world".

The Jamahiriyah editor for African affairs pointed out that not only did Ndjamena's illegal and fascist government declare its collaboration with (Israel) but the two leaders dragged the Chadian people into a destructive barbarian war for their own personal interests, i.e. to assume power at any price even it meant the death of thousands of Chadian people.

However, the editor went on, with their alertness the Chadian people will not give way to such opportunists as Goukouni Ouaddeimi and Hissene Habre to reach power and they will take up the struggle against oppression.

They will reiterate the truth: "The only solution is true independence, free from imperialist influence from outside Africa."

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA COMMENTS ON MOROCCAN-SAUDI TALKS

LD220930 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta has stated that today's meeting of the Saudi and Moroccan sides was fruitful and dealt with a number of issues regarding Arab action within the framework of the resolutions of the Baghdad summit conference and the transfer of the headquarters of the Arab League. The Moroccan minister told SNA that the meeting dealt with the coordination of joint Arab action in accordance with the resolutions of the Fes Islamic conference, in particular regarding the Jerusalem committee, with the coordination of diplomatic efforts at the international level and with bilateral relations and cooperation in various fields.

Boucetta added that the two sides exchanged viewpoints with regard to the preparation of proposals or plans for the Jerusalem committee, which is chaired by the Moroccan monarch at the kingdom's request. He pointed out that there was complete understanding on the consolidation of mutual cooperation.

Saudi Foreign Minister on Morocco, Sahara

LD221306 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, has explained to AN-NADWAH that the issue of Jerusalem and Palestine is the focus of the joint interest of the Saudi and Moroccan kingdoms. The two countries have agreed on effective moves to be made in the forthcoming phase through international organizations and through sending envoys and delegations to explain to the world the Islamic and Arab viewpoints regarding the firm, principled rights of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland and to establish an independent state on their national soil, regarding the restoration of holy Jerusalem to the Muslim tide and regarding the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

His royal highness added: The Jerusalem committee proposed by the kingdom will meet in its new form in the coming weeks, under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, after raising the level of its representation to the level of foreign ministers. The committee faces a mammoth task until the beginning of the new hegira century, when it will submit a report on its work and its visualization of future strategy to the Islamic summit conference in holy Mecca.

His royal highness went on to say: The kingdom is devoting all of its resources to see that the work of the committee is successful in order to save Arab rights from being lost and so that we may reach an Islamic-Arab stance consolidated by international legitimacy and capable of confronting and aborting the aims of international Zionism and colonialism.

Concerning the Saharan issue, his royal highness declared that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is watching with great anxiety the development of this problem and feels that its continued existence serves to disperse Arab efforts, giving them no natural aims [words indistinct]. It is an unjustifiable waste of Arab resources and capabilities which could be more beneficially used for construction and development and for repelling common dangers.

His royal highness added: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, while continuing to carry out its responsibility to reach a solution to the problem, believes that a solution is easy and available when there are common desires and honest intentions to solve it. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has found this with all parties to the problem, and hopes that it will be solved shortly in a definitive manner.

Commenting on the talks headed by His Majesty King Khalid and His Majesty King Hassan II his royal highness said: The means for consolidating the bilateral relations between the two sister countries were discussed. The Arab [word indistinct] relations were also discussed, and viewpoints relating to this were reviewed. As expected, the views expressed were identical and in agreement since the two monarchs and the two countries proceed on the basis of concern for Arab and Islamic interests in all that they are working for. Talks and consultations will continue in the course of the meeting which will take place during the stay of His Majesty King Khalid in Fes.

The ministers concerned with foreign affairs have been delegated to continue discussing some international topics in order to coordinate the stands of the two countries. They are also discussing cooperation in cultural affairs, transportation and communications in the light of bilateral and collective relations with other countries.

His royal highness said: The rejection of the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement in the talks is nothing new, and this has been a collective Arab resolution to which everyone is committed.

Regarding the fraternal relations binding the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Morocco, his royal highness said: It is superfluous to stress that the firm relations which bind the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Morocco have gone beyond normal protocols. They are well established, ancient relations, reflecting the principles and noble objectives which unite the essence of the policy of the two countries. His royal highness added: The ties and relations which unite the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Morocco are based historically on their pioneering role in the call for Muslim solidarity and the defense of Islam and its supreme ideals. In the same way that Moroccan blood has mingled with Saudi blood in defense of Islam and in the cause of restoring the usurped Arab rights in Palestine, Jerusalem and the Golan Heights, our two countries will write a pioneering chapter in repelling the perils that threaten our cause of destiny.

SUDAN

SUNA REPORTS ON NUMAYRI'S 22 MAY KHARTOUM PRESS CONFERENCE

JN221707 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1530 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 22 May--During a press conference held here today, President Ja'far Numayri said that the next OAU conference will discuss subjects similar to those discussed during the last meeting. He added that certain matters that have crystallized require the issuance of firm resolutions in a number of instances. He cited as examples the problems among African neighbors, foreign intervention, the various economic problems facing Africa and the organization's charter, which does not put forth solutions to problems before they become entrenched.

In reply to a question on the recent Sudanese-Libyan statement regarding the Baghdad summit, the president said that Sudan believes in the Arab League although it did not agree to the Baghdad summit resolutions. He added that Sudan is an Arab League member and that it respects the group's resolutions. There is nothing that Sudan finds contradictory to its policy in the statement, he added.

In his press conference, President Numayri said that all Ugandan refugees are being well treated in Sudan, in accordance with international law. He objected to what was expressed in the (Arosha) conference to the effect that there is no refugee problem that Sudan can raise because all these refugees are Sudanese mercenaries who have returned to their country. He said that half of present-day Uganda was part of Sudan during Turkish rule; hence this saying is unrealistic and untrue. He added that well over 30,000 registered Ugandan refugees and 70,000 unregistered refugees are now in Sudan. He added that well over 1,700 Muslims from various countries in the world have fled, because Islam has now become a crime in Uganda for which any person can be killed.

In reply to a question about the Kenyan citizen who entered and then left Sudan and who is wanted by the Kenyan authorities, President Numayri said that this citizen has caused a lot of problems between Sudan and Kenya. He added: I explained Sudan's stand on this issue in an objective and clear way to the Kenyan president during our meeting.

President Numayri explained the case of this Kenyan citizen. He said the Kenyan citizen, who was either assistant to the police director or the director, entered Sudan and asked to leave for Europe. He was given the necessary assistance. However, when he passed through Sudan we had no knowledge that he was carrying out a hostile action against Kenya. President Numayri described the relations between Kenya and Sudan as very friendly and strong. These relations are constantly developing, he added.

President Numayri said that Sudan has not yet declared an opinion regarding the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. However, in our statement on the Camp David agreement we clearly expressed our opinion. He said that this kind of action could constitute a peace framework, but there were three things that must be clarified for the Arab world: the Palestinian people's rights, the evacuation from the territories occupied in 1967 and the issue of Jerusalem. This was the gist of our statement on the Camp David agreement.

President Numayri said in his press conference that it was Iraq that distorted Sudan's position, by virtue of its tremendous amount of money. He said that Iraq used its money in the propaganda field to achieve its personal objectives and interests and to exploit the changes in the Arab world.

In reply to a question on Sudan's reservations on the Baghdad summit's resolutions and those of the Arab foreign ministers conference, and on Sudanese-Egyptian relations at this stage, President Numayri said that Sudan participated in the Baghdad conference and entered reservations on its resolutions. However, we refrained from attending the so-called foreign and economy ministers conference, because its aim was to implement resolutions and because we believe that the Arab League's charter and principles alone can guide Sudanese policy in terms of our dealings with the Arab countries.

President Numayri asserted that Sudan is working faithfully to strengthen Arab solidarity and is endeavoring to spread the spirit of cooperation among the Arab countries. Sudan is also working hard to accelerate integration in the Arab nation as a springboard for achieving economic and political unity. Sudan, the president added, opposes the imposition of sanctions on any Arab state for any reason.

Commenting on the visit of French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing to Sudan tomorrow, President Numayri said that this visit is of special significance because it is the first visit ever made by a French leader.

President Numayri said that the rapid developments in the Arab world have prompted the Arab countries to adopt stands toward the peace issue, which is led by Egypt through its dialog with the United States and Israel. These rapid changes have prompted the Arab countries to adopt crucial stands and decisions.

In his press conference today, which was attended by representatives of the world press and news agencies, President Numayri said that Sudan's stand stemmed from the principles it holds in terms of the solution to the fateful issue and from the achievements of the Algiers and Rabat conferences. President Numayri said: We believe that all of these support our domestic views and strengthen the bases of our foreign policy. Our policy must confirm our sovereignty and not that of others, he added. He said that Sudan is not guided in its foreign policy nor in its stands. Sudan proceeds from the fact that it is a member of the Arab group under the canopy of the Arab League.

Asked his opinion of his role as the OAU chairman, President Numayri said that with its present structure the OAU has been incapable of confronting the African Continent's problems, which are rapidly changing. He stressed the need for all-embracing action to solve outstanding problems, which have been shelved by the OAU charter.

He explained that he was optimistic about solving all outstanding African problems, including those of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa, as well as the problems among African countries such as the African horn, the Eritrean issue, Chad and the Sahara. However, not everything goes according to one's wishes. The number of problems in the continent have grown.

SUDAN TO RECEIVE INTEREST-FREE OPEC LOAN

JN191517 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 19 May 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 19 May--President Numayri has issued an order ratifying a loan agreement between Sudan and the OPEC special fund to finance the 1979 second energy project. The agreement was signed on 4 December 1978.

According to the loan agreement, Sudan will get a $9.5 million interest-free loan, to be repaid over 20 years with a 5-year grace period.

TRIBUNAL BEGINS TRIAL OF 45 POLITICAL DEFENDANTS

JN191812 Khartoum SUNA in English 1800 GMT 19 May 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, May 19 (SUNA)--A state security tribunal began today in Jabal al-Awliya', a Khartoum suburb, the trial of 45 defendants accused of formation of unlicenced political organization, violation of the constitution, conspiracy and waging war against the state.

The defendants were arrested last May 6 for disturbance of security and trafficking in arms.

TUNISIA

NOUIRA MEETS PLO'S QADDUMI ON MIDEAST DEVELOPMENTS

JN181452 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1100 GMT 18 May 79 JN

[Text] Chairman of the PLO Political Department Brother Abu al-Lutf met with Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Nouira in Tunis yesterday. After the meeting Abu al-Lutf said that the meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Middle East, the events in Lebanon and the repeated Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon.

Abu al-Lutf stressed the need for the Arab League Council to meet as soon as possible to discuss the current situation and to implement the recommendations of the Arab foreign and economic ministers held recently in Baghdad and the resolutions of the Fes Islamic conference.

WESTERN SAHARA

ALGIERS CITES POLISARIO LEADER ON MAURITANIAN STANCE

LD220906 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] The Mauritanian Military Committee for National Recovery, which has been holding an extraordinary session for the last 3 days, has reiterated its decision to send a high-level mission to Algeria as soon as possible and also to continue talks with the POLISARIO Front.

The communique issued yesterday in Nouakchott also indicates that within the framework of the peace move begun on 10 July 1978, the committee remains anxious to reestablish diplomatic relations with the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria.

The Saharan people are not making sacrifices to defend family interests and are not sacrificing themselves (?for the throne) or for seats in parliament; they want their independence. These words are contained in a speech made this morning in the liberated territories by the POLISARIO Front secretary general on the celebration of the sixth anniversary of the unleashing of the armed struggle.

The Mauritanian leaders are not free in their decisions and positions, but we have not lost hope before the meeting planned for 26 May when the protocol on the restitution of territories under Mauritanian occupation to the Saharan people should come into force, he said. We call on the Mauritanian people to preserve their unity. The Mauritanian leaders are adopting the role of oppressors, a role given them by powers whose interests are different from those of the Mauritanian people. We would have put an end to this war if we were faced with Mauritanians and Moroccans alone. The proof that we are not struggling with these two powers alone is that French aircraft overfly our territory and violate our airspace.

The secretary general recalled the beginnings of the armed struggle and the successful campaign against Spain. For the Saharan people the operation is simple: it is to obtain their freedom. We have gone through an important phase, Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz said. In 1973, on this same day, the POLISARIO Front had only 6 rifles and 12 men determined to fight the Spanish Government. Our willpower and our determination to regain our sovereignty were such that we drove the Spanish occupier beyond our borders.

He concluded: The schools that trained the senior officers in the Algerian and Vietnamese wars are the same as those that are supplying specialists to train the Moroccan forces. They are responsible for their strategy, the defensive and offensive tactics of the royal army and overarm them in spite of the peoples' sacrifices.

BRIEFS

MOROCCAN-POLISH AGREEMENT--Warsaw, May 21 (MAP)--Abderrahmane Baddou, Moroccan secretary of state for foreign affairs, who was on an official visit to Poland, concluded here this Monday with the Polish minister of justice a juridical convention between Morocco and Poland. Immediately after the signing of this convention, Baddou left Warsaw for Rabat. [Text] [Rabat MAP in English 1218 GMT 21 May 79 LD]

BEGIN LEAVES FOR LONDON, COMMENTS ON POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

TA220932 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0808 GMT 22 May 79 TA

[Prime Minister Menahem Begin's news conference at Ben-Gurion airport prior to his departure for London--live]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin is about to leave by plane this morning for a 3-day visit to Britain. During the visit, he will meet with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. Let us now go over to our political correspondent Yosi 'Abadi at Ben-Gurion Airport.

['Abadi] Let us listen to the prime minister's remarks upon his departure.

[Begin] Ladies and gentlemen, I am leaving for London in an hour at the invitation of the Jewish community of Great Britain. This evening, a mass rally will he held in London at which we will celebrate the fact that we have signed a peace treaty with Egypt. This is undoubtedly a turning point in the history of both countries and the Middle East. Tomorrow, I will meet with British Prime Minister Thatcher and with Jimmy Callaghan, the head of the opposition.

[Unidentified correspondent] James Callaghan.

[Begin] I said Jimmy Callaghan. You beg my pardon. The state secretary made a mistake with regard to Lord Carrington and called him Carradon. However, I did not make a mistake! Jimmy Callaghan is his name. Let us wait until the lady with her fine voice ends her important remarks. [Turning to the Jerusalem Radio political correspondent] Mr Schiffer, have you any government secrets you can tell me, ah? I repeat, I will meet with the British prime minister and opposition head. After the elections in Britain I sent two letters: one to Mrs Thatcher, congratulating her on her victory, and the other to Mr Jimmy Callaghan, repeating my invitation to him to come to Israel. He had to reciprocate with an official visit as prime minister. In the meantime, however, elections took place and, following democratic rules, he has become the head of the opposition. We, the Israelis, do not forget friends and do not change friendships. Mr Callaghan is a clear, well-known friend of the State of Israel. I had the honor and privilege over the last 2 years, when we both served our peoples as prime ministers, to form personal, intimate and deep friendly relations with him. We remember the value of friendship, personal as well as national. Yesterday, I received a most warm letter from Mr Callaghan and the same holds true for Mrs Thatcher. Mr Callaghan informed me that he definitely wants to visit Israel together with his gracious wife, and will do so--as he writes me--when things have settled down here [last six words in English]. We will then wait until things settle down [last three words in English]. I am sure that Mr and Mrs Callaghan will come to us and will be received here--as I wrote to him--with honor and warmth as befits him as a person, as a former prime minister, as a leader of a large democratic party and as a friend. It is obvious that during my stay in London I will also invite Mrs Thatcher, the prime minister, to visit Israel. She visited our country on several occasions, but it was either privately or as the head of the opposition. If she, as I hope, accepts my invitation, it will be the first time she will visit us as the British prime minister. We will surely hold talks on international and Middle East problems and on questions pertaining to both countries.

Thursday will be Jerusalem Day. On Friday, God willing, before the entry of the sabbath, I will return home. I will return before the entry of the sabbath so that no crisis is created in the Israeli Government. I will also return before the sabbath because it is my way of life. [Begin then repeats this statement in English].

['Abadi] Mr Prime Minister, in the course of your visit you will meet with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. Will you present him with the autonomy plan as approved by the Cabinet yesterday?

[Begin] No, I will not present any program to him since the presentation of the plan we approved yesterday--almost unanimously and with a majority of votes on four clauses--in parentheses I should say that Israel's radio announced most loudly that four ministers voted against, but neglected to say how many ministers voted in favor. I shall fill in the omitted details: 4 voted against, but 12 voted for. This is a majority of two-thirds, which is rather rare in democracy. Well, then, we decided that the presentation of the plan to the negotiators--i.e., to the Egyptians and the Americans--will be done only after a special decision by the government. Such a decision has not yet been made and, therefore, I cannot present the plan to Mr Vance. However, we shall surely talk about the problems connected with the negotiations with Egypt on the autonomy arrangements.

['Abadi] Sir, is Israel interested in the United States mediating in the autonomy negotiations as it mediated in the negotiations on the peace treaty?

[Begin] The United States will be a partner to the negotiations at the invitation of both parties. However, it will not conduct them since the chairmen of the joint Israeli-Egyptian committee will be, alternately, Israel's representative in Beersheba and Egypt's representative in Al-'Arish. The U.S. delegation will actively participate in the discussions and will certainly hold contacts with both parties. Give your firends [the correspondents] a chance [last word in English].

[Unidentified correspondent--in English] From what we have heard about the Israeli and Egyptian positions about the autonomy, it seems like two totally different concepts.

[Begin interrupting--in English] What are you worried about, Mr (Meins)?

[Unidentified correspondent--in English] What I am wondering about is: Do you think--given your experience in negotiating with the Egyptians and with the Americans--that these two [words indistinct] can be compromised?

[Begin--in English] If you read the history of international negotiations--I am sure you have read much about them. I have, too. Less than you, but still, I read some pages. [Words indistinct] all negotiations begin with differences of opinion. [Words indistinct] we have principles. We shall bring them to the table, and our delegation will work with the Egyptian delegation in the spirit of understanding [words indistinct]. [According to the Hebrew translation, Begin says here that "in the spirit of understanding we shall try to reach an agreement according to the principles decided on by the government"].

[Unidentified correspondent--in English] You mentioned that Mr Callaghan was a great friend of Israel. What sort of a reaction to Israel do you expect from the new British Government headed by Mrs Thatcher?

[Begin--in English] [Sentence indistinct] I do hope that the same friendship will be established between Mrs Thatcher and myself and between the two countries. (?Perhaps I have such a promise) in a letter from Mrs Thatcher to me in reply to my cable of congratulations. She [words indistinct] that both of us are interested in deepening the friendship between our two countries.

[Unidentified correspondent--in English] What sort of discussions will be held between you and Mrs Thatcher?

[Begin--in English] In order to make the story short, perhaps I'll invite you to participate in those discussions. [laughter]

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, the Ne'ot Sinai settlers have fortified themselves in the green garden, which is, in fact, in the Al-'Arish area. You are leaving now. Are there any instructions about their forceful evacuation? Can you say something about this?

[Begin] Well, I hope that the commander of the southern command will convince them to leave the place. They are loyal citizens of Israel, I know them. I can also understand them, but houses or lands must not be seized in Israel and they should obey the orders of the commander of the southern command, who is one of Israel's heroes and is currently meeting with them. I am convinced he will persuade them to return to their homes. They will be there for 3 years according to the agreement signed between Israel and Egypt.

[Same unidentified correspondent] However, they may be stubborn and, as they say...

[Begin interrupting] Sir, why are you so pessimistic on the morning of such a beautiful day? Why should you ask speculative questions? I expressed the hope that the commander of the southern command, a wonderful man and a distinguished soldier, would succeed in convincing our good friends. They are, by the way, my friends. As I say, I hope he will succeed in convincing them to return to their homes and continue to live there as free men in Israel obedient to their elected government.

[Elimelekh Ram] Mr Prime Minister, is it to be understood that the autonomy plan endorsed by the Cabinet yesterday constitutes an opening position in the negotiations with Egypt?

[Begin] (Totchka) [word apparently in Russian], full stop. [last two words in English], period in Hebrew. Nothing is to be subtracted and nothing is to be added. Whoever wants can add: tefadal [please]. This is in Arabic, but how is my accent? It was not so good, ah? I have not learned Arabic yet.

[Shim'on Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, are you a partner to the concepts recently expressed in Egypt regarding the process of normalization between the two countries to the effect that the process will start only after the first 9 months of the IDF's withdrawal?

[Begin] Mr Schiffer, this time I am grateful to you for your question. First, you have not revealed any Israeli state secret, but you posed an important question concerning the ties between Egypt and us. I want to categorically state that the announcement by the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Ghali, totally contradicts the agreement reached between President as-Sadat and myself during my visit in Cairo.

Mr Ghali made such a statement about 4 weeks ago, a statement to the effect that the normalization between us and Egypt will begin only after 15 months. At that time I called President as-Sadat and complained to him. As you know, Mr Ghali's first name is Butrus in Arabic. Butrus means Peter and Peter means dome, The Dome of the Rock since he is a Copt. When President as-Sadat was in Jerusalem, he told me an anecdote that could be repeated for humor's sake: He told my friends that he calls him Butrus when Ghali behaves well and that when he is angry with him--this happens in the Israeli Government too--he calls him Peter. Therefore, on the telephone I told Mr President as-Sadat: Mr President, Peter--he immediately took the hint--said we would have to wait another 15 months. President as-Sadat then told me: Do not pay attention to what Peter said. We have an agreement and I will abide by it. The agreement that we achieved in Cairo exists. In Al-'Arish we shall announce two things: open borders immediately, not after a 9-month waiting period, and the inauguration of the direct 45-minute air corridor over the Sinai between Israel and Egypt. I also read Butrus Ghali's statement, my good friend [referring to Schiffer]. He is a nice person, a professor of international law, a most enlightened person whom we greatly respect. However, he makes statements which contradict the agreement reached between the Egyptian president and the Israeli prime minister. I do not think that Mr Ghali has such authority. At any rate, when I get to Al-'Arish and meet with President as-Sadat, I will surely ask him again, as I asked him on the Jerusalem-Cairo telephone line: Mr President, does the agreement we reached in Cairo about announcing open borders exist--as you have told me twice--or has it been canceled, as announced twice by Mr Butrus Ghali? My impression is that it is not Dr Ghali but President as-Sadat to decided things in Egypt.

[Ravid--in English] Would you please comment on recent differences of opinion between yourself and Defense Minister Weizman, and will such divisions in the Cabinet weaken Israel's position on the autonomy?

[Begin--in English] Mr dear friend, what is democracy? Democracy (?means) that there are differences of opinion. If possible, [words indistinct] should be a consensus. Yesterday, we achieved a consensus on the overwhelming majority of the paragraphs in our autonomy plan. Then, when the differences still exist, you take a vote. The majority makes the decisions and the minority accepts those decisions, and the majority speaks on behalf of the Cabinet. So today the prime minister (?presents Israel's autonomy plan). I speak on behalf of our defense minister, foreign minister, minister for labor and minister for industry, on behalf of those ministers who voted for and those who voted against. The resolutions, the decisions, were taken by the Cabinet as such and so they will be implemented. Thank you very much and thank you for giving me the opportunity to tell you something.

['Abadi] Well, then, the prime minister's news conference is coming to an end. We shall again mention that the prime minister will meet with U.S. Secretary of State Vance in London, where they will hold talks on the opening of the autonomy talks. The prime minister will indeed not present the autonomy plan as approved by the Cabinet yesterday to the U.S. secretary of state, but will undoubtedly present him with Israel's tendencies toward the negotiations and its general concept regarding the autonomy in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Now I return the broadcast from Ben-Gurion airport to the IDF radio studio.

HA'ARETZ REPORTS DETAILS OF AUTONOMY PLAN CLAUSES

TA221435 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 May 79 p 1 TA

[By the HA'ARETZ political correspondent]

[Text] In its final version, Israel's autonomy plan contains 18 clauses covering 2 pages. The document was submitted yesterday to the Cabinet in English and Hebrew. It now reads: Draft Principles for Full Autonomy for the Arab Inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza and for the Existence of the Jewish Settlements in These Territories. The following are the focal elements of the updated plan:

--Withdrawal of the military government once the self-administration authority is established.

--The powers accorded to the self-administration authority will be delegated by the military government.

--Negotiations will be conducted regarding the number of members on the administrative council and its departments, which will be elected.

--Internal security and the combating of terroism, subversion and violence will be in the hands of Israeli security elements.

--The Jewish settlements and/or Jewish population will be governed by Israeli administration and jurisdiction. The right to settle in the autonomous regions will be maintained.

--The IDF will withdraw and redeploy within specified zones in the autonomous territories.

--Israel will be responsible for water resource planning, in consultation with the administrative council.

--State land and scrub land will be under Israeli control.

--There will be freedom of movement between Israel and the autonomous areas.

--The residents of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza will be able to choose between Israeli and Jordanian citzenship.

--Israeli citizens will be able to purchase land in the autonomous areas. Residents of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza will be able to purchase land in Israel after they have taken Israeli citizenship.

Negotiations will be held regarding the method of electing an administrative council.

--Declaration: Israel will at no time permit the establishment of a Palestinian state in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza since this will constitute a danger to its survival and security.

--Declaration: After the 5 years of autonomy, Israel will lay claim to its right to extend its sovereignty over the territories of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza.

The following are the differences between the final and the previous formulations:

The clauses which formerly detailed the system of elections to the autonomy institutions have been combined. The clause specifically referring to the source of authority being Israel has been included. The definition of the functional limits and numbers of the departments in the administrative council has been deleted. The clause stating that the administrative council will act in accordance with this definition has been deleted. The clause stating that the seat of the administrative council would be located in Bethlehem has been deleted. The Jewish right to settle in the autonomous areas has been included. The clauses dealing with Israeli control over land and water resources will be stated in more generalized terms. (Regarding water, it is now stated that Israel's actions in this sphere will be carried out "in consultation" with the administrative council, whereas the previous text said "under an understanding").

Knesset Committee Briefed

TA221612 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 22 May 79 TA

[Text] Minister Yosef Burg, who is heading the negotiating team on the issue of autonomy, says that the document formulated by the Cabinet yesterday constitutes an opening position for the talks with Egypt. He expressed dismay at Cabinet members who leak information to the press on controversies inside the Cabinet on the autonomy issue. It is legitimate for arguments to be held in the Cabinet, he said, but once there is a Cabinet decision, it binds one and all.

Our correspondent Razi Barqa'i says Burg's statement was made to members of the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee. The session was in part stormy, and strong arguments erupted between coalition and opposition members, after Minister Burg refused to furnish the participants with copies of the autonomy plan. Dr Burg explained that the prime minister had not authorized him to present the document but only read and explain it to them. The Alinement representatives at the committee protested in vain.

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR CAIRO TO FINALIZE AL-'ARISH PREPARATIONS

TA221321 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0920 GMT 22 May 79 TA

[Text] Ben-Gurion airport, 22 May--The director general of the prime minister's office, Dr Ben-Elisar, and the prime minister's military adviser, Brig Gen Efrayim Poran, left Tuesday morning for Cairo on an air force Westwind plane. They will remain there a few hours and return early this evening.

An ITIM correspondent was told that the two will meet with Mr (Hasan Kamal), President as-Sadat's assistant and head of the president's office, as well as with representatives of all of the offices arranging the ceremony that will be held on Sunday in Al-'Arish and Beersheba and the meeting on autonomy matters to take place in Beersheba on Friday.

Head of protocol Rehav'am 'Amir, head of the government press office Ze'ev Hefetz, security personnel, the IDF's representative and a representative of the air force left on the same plane. While in Cairo they will check on the coordination with regard to the flights of President as-Sadat and his entourage to Al-'Arish on Sunday. Brig Gen Efrayim Poran told the ITIM correspondent that the objective of the trip is to finalize all the matters pertaining to the ceremonies in Al-'Arish and Beersheba.

It is not yet clear whether President as-Sadat will arrive in Israel by air or on board his yacht. They will also discuss with their Cairo interlocutors the matter of the stay of thousands of people in Al-'Arish on Sunday and thousands of people in Beersheba. About 2,000 people were invited to the ceremony at Beersheba University and about the same number were invited to be present at the ceremony in Beersheba [as received].

'NE'OT SINAI SETTLERS: WE WERE ASKED TO REMAIN

TA221247 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 22 May 79 TA

[Text] Some of the Ne'ot Sinai settlers claim that Cabinet ministers asked them to insist on remaining in the settlement Green Garden, thus serving a positive end, as they put it. The residents said this today to the commander of the southern command when he tried to persuade them to vacate the Green Garden of their own free will. Maj Gen Dan Shomron asked the settlers to maintain the honor of the IDF soldiers as well as their own and not to let the situation deteriorate to the point where force would have to be used.

The Israeli-Egyptian committee again met in Al-'Arish today to deal with subjects pertaining to the evacuation of the region.

Court Issues Interim Order

TA230721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 23 May 79 TA

[Text] A short while ago the High Court of Justice issued an interim order prohibiting the evacuation of the Ne'ot Sinai settlers from their vegetable garden. The interim order is valid until noon, when the appeal on this issue will be brought before three Supreme Court justices. The interim order was issued by one justice. Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that in their appeal the Ne'ot Sinai settlers claim that the order of the regional commander does not forbid them from remaining at the place and, therefore, they should not be evacuated unless the order is corrected. Our correspondent in Ne'ot Sinai, Shalom Oren, reports that the supporters of the Ne'ot Sinai settlers continue to flow into the vegetable garden. They manage this by bypassing the roadblocks erected by the IDF. Many journalists are also there.

Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman and Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir will soon go to the vegetable garden and will try to persuade the settlers to leave the place. This issue will be raised in the talks to be held between Foreign Minister Dayan and Egyptian Minister Ghali scheduled to take place before noon today.

Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon rejected rumors to the effect that he had asked the Ne'ot Sinai settlers to insist on remaining the place. He emphasized that the settlers must abide by the Cabinet's and Knesset's decisions and vacate the garden.

Weizman Cuts Short Visit

TA230823 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 23 May 79 TA

[Text] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman cut short his visit to the vegetable garden of Ne'ot Sinai after a verbal clash with the settlers. Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir, who arrived there together with Mr Weizman, remained and our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that the atmosphere is very tense.

Our correspondent adds that the defense minister left Ne'ot Sinai after he tried to speak without interruption to the large crowd that was present. Several people even tried to approach him, making catcalls in the process.

Infiltrating through the IDF roadblocks, the supporters of the Ne'ot Sinai settlers continued to arrive at the vegetable garden this morning. In about an hour, three justices of the high court will meet to discuss the settlers' appeal. This morning, Justice Ben-Porat issued an interim order prohibiting evacuation of the settlers until the appeal is heard by a larger number of Supreme Court justices. In their appeal, the residents claim that the regional commander's order bans entry into and exit from the vegetable garden but does not forbid them to stay there.

SHARON DEMANDS FUNDS FOR 'ARAVA SETTLEMENT

TA221215 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 22 May 79 TA

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon demands that funds be allocated for the establishment of an agricultural buffer zone in the south of the 'Arava since both Jordan and Egypt have plans for settlement and development on their border with the 'Arava region. At a news conference in Jerusalem, the agriculture minister expressed opposition to the Treasury's plan to cut the settlement budget. He is also opposed to the sale of state lands, fearing this will enable hostile foreign elements to seize lands here.

JERUSALEM RADIO REPORTS EXCHANGES OF FIRE IN SOUTH LEBANON

TA222016 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 22 May 79 TA

[Text] Intermittent exchanges of fire between the terrorists and the Christian militias are taking place in the area of the enclave north of Metulla. Our correspondent Yehezq'el Hame'iri reports that the terrorists opened fire from their positions in the Beaufort fortress and Armun and directed it at Marj 'Uyun, Al-Qulay'ah and Dayr Mimas in the enclave. The Christians sustained a number of casualties. They received treatment at Good Fence clinic at Metulla.

KHOMEYNI COMMENDS ISLAMIC BANK'S NO-INTEREST PRINCIPLE

LD221338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] At a meeting with a group of the founding members of the Islamic Bank, the imam said: Interest on money is fundamentally unfair and inhuman, that is to say, when individuals make money merely by lending it without doing any work. In another part of his speech, he said: The worst form of exploitation is usury which is imposed on nothing, and this is prohibited in Islam in all its forms. Therefore, the establishment of an Islamic bank whose foundation is based on the absence of usury is a great service to Islam and the community. The imam added: The people ought to pay attention to this bank which is based on the principle that the arbitrary exploitation of a human being not be allowed.

Members of the Islamic Bank also met with His Eminence Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari; His Eminence Ayatollah Mar'ashi; and His Eminence Ayatollah Golpaygani.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES KORDESTAN LEADERS, DPRK GROUP

LD221246 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] A delegation of the ulema and leaders of Kordestan and of the country's border areas were received today by the imam. While congratulating the establishment of the Islamic Republic, they expressed their complete solidarity with the Islamic Iranian revolution and held talks with the imam about various issues of Kordestan.

It is also noteworthy that a political delegation of North Korea also met with the imam today.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES NEW BANGLADESH ENVOY IN QOM

LD181532 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS report from Qom, the new Bangladesh ambassador, together with Bangladesh embassy personnel, were received this morning by Imam Khomeyni and expressed the congratulations of the president and people of Bangladesh to Imam Khomeyni. The imam, while thanking them, said: I hope that all the Islamic governments and the Islamic community will draw closer to each other.

The Bangladesh ambassador asked the imam to send a representative to Bangladesh to investigate the conditions of the Muslims in that country and the profound relations which they have with Iran. Imam Khomeyni said: God willing, at the appropriate time we will send a representative. He asked the ambassador to convey his greetings to the people and the Government of Bangladesh.

KHOMEYNI ENVOYS ADDRESS NAQADEH CITIZENS ON SEPARATISM

LD221356 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi, the representative of Imam Khomeyni who is studying the difficulties of the people of Western Azerbayjan, on the 8th day of his stay in this province, left today for the border town of Sardasht. According to PARS, Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi said yesterday afternoon in a speech at the Red Lion and Sun Society headquarters of Naqadeh: The continuation of a revolution is unfeasible without anticipating martyrdom and the sacrifice of blood. The ayatollah added: Today, the counterrevolution conspirators are creating obstacles in the course of the revolution and these obstacles ought to be removed.

The disgraced conspirators wish to embark on a war of fraticide in the region of Western Azerbayjan, but they must know that this forced war and imposed massacre is what is brought to us by foreign schools. The Kurdish brothers are not traitors and conspirators and do not wish to be in conflict with the Turkoman brothers; it was the Mohammad Reza Khan agents who created the Naqadeh conspiracy.

One of the companions of Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi, Hojjat al-Islam Shirazi also made a speech at the same meeting on the philosophy of the Islamic revolution and the manner of struggle against agitators and counterrevolutionaries, saying: You, the Muslim people, became victorious at the initial stage of the revolution, which may be called the minor holy war and ought to prepare for the major holy war, which is the struggle against one's own self. Hojjat al-Islam Shirazi addressed the people of Naqadeh saying: No one ought to be a refugee in (?this) town, and those who caused the Naqadeh incident ought to be identified and punished. You, the people of Naqadeh, ought to be prepared to blind the eyes of the opportunists and not give the separatists opportunity to act.

STATE MINISTER COMMENTS ON ECONOMIC, FISCAL PROBLEMS

LD181416 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Mr Mo'infar, minister of state in charge of the Planning and Budget Organization, today in a radio and television message detailed the nation's past economic situation and the present monetary difficulties. He said:

One of the special features of the Iranian economy in the past was that some economic sectors were devoid of realistic and correct capacities and, in some cases, had ground to a standstill. The dependent economy of Iran, organized without due regard to its natural capacity, was condemned to chaos, problems and difficulties which we are now facing.

The director of the Planning and Budget Organization in another part of his message referred to the general national budget for the past year and said: In the budget for the year 1357 the volume of proposed activities was so unrealistic that it had a deficit of nearly 1 trillion rials. Then he described the reasons for the budget deficit of the previous year and stated:

We should seek a solution to the problem of bringing the national economy out of its state of parasite-like dependence and restore it to a realistic national economic capacity. He referred to the difficulties in drawing up the general national budget for the year 1358 and said: Our income from oil, even if we widely spend all these resources which belong to our children on current national expenses, is about 1.5 trillion rials. The sums we receive from other sources are between 300 and 400 billion rials and no more. Therefore, altogether our income from oil and other sources will be nearly 1.9 trillion rials. If we merely want to run our administrative organs, all our oil income and income from other sources will just be sufficient to pay for our administrative organs and only a little for infrastructure. At the same time, we are forced to create a balance between current national expenditures and the money which should be spent on the economic infrastructure.

Then, while referring to the fiscal difficulties and commitments which have been imposed on the present government by previous governments, he said:

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, despite all difficulties and problems, has tried to honor as far as possible the promises which previous governments made to employees. He said that in the budget for the year 1358 allocations for current national expenses will be reduced as much as possible and, on the other hand, allocations for the development budget infrastructure investment and basic expenses will be increased.

TEHRAN CITES BROWN, BYRD ON EXECUTIONS, JAVITS

LD221514 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] In spite of the strong reaction to the U.S. State Department and the Senate by the Iranian Government in connection with the interference by the United States in Iran's internal affairs, Robert Byrd, leader of the Democrat wing of the U.S. Senate, once again on Monday asked the Iranian Government to cease the execution of criminals.

Meanwhile Ken Brown, spokesman for the U.S. State Department said: The U.S. Government hopes that Iran will soon receive in Tehran Walter Cutler, the new U.S. ambassador. Brown said: We believe that the new U.S. ambassador will be able to remove the misunderstandings between the two countries, and we hope that he may go to his new post as soon as possible.

At the end of last week, after the leaders of Iran announced that, because of the criticism by the United States and by that country's Senate of the executions taking place in Iran, the new U.S. ambassador should defer his arrival in Iran, relations between the United States and Iran deteriorated in a manner unprecedented in the recent history of relations between the two countries.

However, the protest by the Government of Iran proved no great obstacle to the U.S. State Department's and Senate's continuing to express their views. Brown, spokesman of the U.S. State Department, stated: We believe that discussion on human rights, including that on executions carried out without the necessary trials, is justified, and we hope that such trials should be stopped. The U.S. State Department spokesman, toning down the matter, said on behalf of the U.S. administration: We accept the reality that a number of such widespread changes taking place in a country result in big changes. He stressed: The U.S. Government believes that we should put the past behind us; we support the main aims of the revolution of Iran, which are those of justice and the securing of democracy.

Another U.S. Government authority noted that in spite of the strong statements by the Iranian Government, they have not executed anyone in the past few days.

This morning, Ebrahim Yazdi, the foreign minister, said that the U.S. Senate resolution criticizing the trials in Iran is unacceptable interference in Iran's internal affairs.

Democrat Senator Robert Byrd said: Contrary to Iran's wish for silence in respect of that country's executions, I hope that more people will talk about them on an international level. He added: No government is immune from international criticism, and no government should expect such immunity. Byrd noted that while he desires better relations with Iran, such factors should not be used to guarantee payment of the price of silence.

Byrd said that he is sorry that Iran has chosen to criticize Senator Jacob Javits and his wife. Javits openly criticized the recent trials in Iran, including the death sentence passed on Habib Elqanian, the Iranian Jew. Senator Javits' wife was at one time employed in connection with Iran Air. Brown, answering a question by newsmen on whether Javits and his wife have officially been declared criminals in Iran, replied that Javits, who is under police protection in his apartment in New York, would be under police protection everywhere else.

In Tehran, the Iranian authorities have resumed their attacks against Javits and his wife, who are Jewish. Asadollah Mobashsheri, Iran's minister of justice said: On the basis of documents and evidence available, a sum of $500-507,000 was paid to Javits' wife under a contract with a public relations agency to procure favorable conditions for the previous regime of Iran in the U.S. Senate and in both the Democrat and Republican parties, and this payment was made on the instructions of the former shah and under the supervision of his sister Ashraf. In addition, Henry Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state, a friend of the deposed shah, last night called the fall of the evil rule of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi one of the greatest strategic defeats for U.S. foreign policy since the World War II and considered the indecisiveness of Carter's government responsible for the fall of the regime of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. Kissinger thought that one of the factors in the fall of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi was the lack of CIA intelligence-gathering activities in Iran, as well as the failure to strengthen the political stability of the regime by means of covert assistance.

CHERIKHA-YE FEDA'I-YE KHALQ CRITICIZES CENSORSHIP

LD210020 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[Excerpts] On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Dr Mossadeq, a group of people, on the invitation of the National Democratic Front, took part in a gathering on the lawn of the industrial university.

The Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq's message was read out on this occasion. The message referred to the struggle for freedom of Dr Mossadeq and of the Iranian nation and criticized press and radio-television censorship. In another part of its message the organization pointed out increasing pressure is being put on worker; and so much so that if unemployed workers wished to rise in the defense of their very fundamental rights, they, as (?in the past), are either made the target of bullets or sent to prison. No change has taken place in the conditions of the farmers and hope for change is decreasing day by day. At the end of this ceremony, the resolutions of the National Democratic Front were read out. This resolution condemned attack on the offices of the newspapers and exhibitions, and while strong criticism was leveled at Iranian radio and television, the AYANDEGAN daily was given support, and the Writers' Council was urged to start its publication without delay.

TEHRAN ANNOUNCES START OF KURDISH-LANGUAGE BROADCAST

LD230928 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] The following statement has been issued by the national languages section of the Radio and Television Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

In accordance with this statement, as of tonight the Kurdish-language program of the Iranian national languages unit will be broadcast for a period of 2 hours, from 2150 to 2300 hours [1730-1930 GMT] on mediumwave 557 kHz, equivalent to 537.7 meters.

DEZFUL DEMONSTRATORS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIANS

LD202122 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2000 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[Text] Following the recent disturbances in the southern city of Masjed-e Soleyman, several groups in the city of Dezful demonstrated yesterday and requested the prosecution of those who have caused these disturbances. The demonstrators also expressed their support for the Palestinian people and condemned the [word indistinct] designed by international imperialism and Zionism.

TEHRAN CITES IZVESTIYA INTERVIEW WITH ABADAN GOVERNOR

LD210956 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS report, Abadan governor Esma'il Abufazeli has been interviewed by IZVESTIYA correspondent Ashraf Akhmedzyanov. Replying to a question on what fundamental changes the Iranian Islamic revolution has brought about in the lives of people and especially those living in Abadan, he said: The fundamental changes experienced since the victory of the revolution can be divided into two: material and spiritual. Spiritual changes, which are the more important, concern the personal and social lives of people living in Abadan and consequently that of all Iranian people. As everybody is aware, the former government, although constitutional, was considered a dictatorship in practice. The present government is based on Islamic principles and relies on a republican system of government which has special characteristics and which the people of Iran have tried for years to acquire. The results of this is the referendum held recently to decide the system of government. As regards material changes, the governor of Abadan said: As all revolutions in the world have illustrated, after each revolution there are bound to be cases of instability and losses. Fortunately, because the revolution in Iran was accomplished quickly the amount of damage done to the country is relatively small he added: because during the revolution, for a period of few months, there were strikes, and industry stopped. And because managers of factories and owners of industries who were active under the former regime have withdrawn their capital these problems have resulted in unemployment of many of our country's workers. We are thus trying to attract workers to the labor market while rebuilding the country.

In answer to the question: What are your programs for reviving agriculture and leading the industrial city of Abadan toward becoming an agricultural center, the governor of Abadan said: there are vast plots of land in Abadan which can be used for traditional and industrial agricultural projects, and with the plans under consideration by the government we will try to reclaim the uncultivated plots of land and transform them into an agricultural area while preserving and developing industry in Abadan.

As regards the nationalization of the country's industries, the governor of Abadan said: This problem is being considered very seriously by the government, and the first step in this process is the formation of workers councils to supervise work in the country's industries.

The IZVESTIYA reporter asked about foreigners employed in the oil industries. The governor of Abadan, who has a 24-year service record in NIOC [National Iranian Oil Company], said: At the moment the foreigners have gone and the Abadan oil industry is being run by Iranians. On oil exports the governor of Abadan said: A huge part of our country's oil is being used for domestic consumption and some of it is exported.

The IZVESTIYA reporter asked about the Cinema Rex disaster and those who caused it. Engineer Abufazeli answered: Abadan's chief prosecutor is investigating the file. There is no doubt that the disaster was ordered by the former regime and executed by the then chief of police. Concerning unemployment, the governor of Abadan said: We expect our project on road construction, housing developments, water purification plants, and sewerage works to become operational soon and thus attract many people to the labor market.

OIL INDUSTRY OFFICIALS INVESTIGATE LABOR PROBLEMS IN KHUZESTAN

LD181600 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] A NIOC spokesman said today that Hasan Nazih and the members of the NIOC executive board, who recently traveled to Khuzestan Province to investigate shortcomings, resolve difficulties and reach decisions about the welfare requirements of oil industry workers, met continuously with the representatives of various groups of Abadan refinery workers and studied their problems. At the end of these meetings he issued orders concerning the resolution of the problems of oil industry workers.

PARTY HOLDS MASS MEETING IN TABRIZ

LD181939 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] This afternoon, the Islamic Republic of Iranian Muslim Masses Party of Tabriz organized a meeting in Takhti Stadium for the workers and toilers of the Eastern Azerbaijan Province. In this meeting, Dr Alizadeh made a speech in which he referred to the role of His Great Eminence Shari'at-Madari in the Islamic revolution of Iran. He said:

It is through our oneness of purpose and our faith that we can prevent counterrevolutionary activities in our country. We should be vigilant and prevent any antirevolutionary activity until we have achieved final victory.

The life you dear workers led in the past was not a real life. The traitorous shah freely poured into the laps of foreigners all the benefits accrued from the labor of the workers and laborers in order to preserve his own position. In order to become successful in his wicked design, he provoked dissension among the people of Iran in their various strata.

Dr Alizadeh, in continuing this speech, referred to the importance of the new constitution in the lives of the workers. He asked them to be sure to take part in the constitutional referendum and to elect those people to the Constitutent Assembly who have been previously proven.

TABRIZ UNIVERSITY CHANCELLOR RESIGNS

LD221002 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] Chancellor of Tabriz University Dr Abulfath Seqatoleslami resigned from his post today. According to a PARS reporter, the council of Tabriz University held a session this afternoon in the presence of the members when affairs and circumstances in Tabriz University were considered and discussed.

KERMANSHAHAN GUARDS CORPS BEING FORMED

LD210934 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] Hojjat al-Islam Lahuti, who had gone to Kermanshahan to investigate the problems of the Province of Kermanshahan and also to form the Revolutionary Guards corps in the province, yesterday afternoon left Kermanshahan for Tehran. Yesterday morning in a radio and television interview at the radio station of the Islamic Republic of Kermanshahan, he announced that the Islamic Revolutionary Guards corps of Kermanshahan is in the process of formation. He said that due to the special importance of the formation of the Revolutionary Guards corps in the Province of Kermanshahan, its formation is among the first priorities. He said the Revolutionary Guards corps is a military organization whose importance has been recognized by the leader of the revolution and he has ordered the Revolutionary Council to supervise the formation of this corps. With the formation of this corps throughout the country the committees will gradually be amalgamated with the Revolutionary Guards corps and their responsibility and duty will then be merely to assist the Revolutionary Guards corps.

BUSHEHR REVOLUTIONARY STRIKE FORCE HEAD KILLED

LD221154 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] In a bloody and tragic incident last night, Habibollah Zali, the head of the strike force of the Guardians of the Islamic Revolution of Bushehr Province, was killed. According to the report, it is rumored in Bushehr that the head of the strike force of the Revolution Guardians, who played an effective part in arresting a large number of counter-revolutionary elements and in fighting against smugglers, was killed as a result of a premeditated plot.

The body of martyr Habibollah Zali was given an official funeral and burial ceremony this morning amid the intense sorrow of the people of Bushehr by clergymen, navy, air force, gendarmerie, police and Revolution Guardians personnel as well as more than 20,000 citizens of Bushehr. On the occasion the bazaar and all shops in Bushehr were closed this morning and government offices and schools also were partially closed.

OFFICIAL IN BUSHEHR TO PURGE REVOLUTION COMMITTEES

LD221318 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] Hojjat al-Islam Sheykh Ahmad Gharavi, the representative of the central committee who is in Bushehr to purge the Islamic revolution committees, gave a speech at a gathering of the people of the district of Hormud last night and asked the people of that district for brotherhood and greater solidarity in taking the Islamic movement to its fruition, and referring to general disarmament, asked the committee members to consider the people's reasonable demands without delay.

At the end of this meeting the five members of the Islamic revolution committee in Hormud were elected and introduced to the people.

TEHRAN REPORTS FURTHER ON ARRESTS, SENTENCING

ID181522 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 May 79 ID

[Text] The prosecutor of the Islamic revolution in Mashhad has published the following announcement:

Mahvash Nikju, assistant professor of the faculty of letters and human sciences of the Fardowsi University in Mashhad, has been arrested and charged with collaborating with SAVAK. Her file in under investigation in the prosecutor's office. We ask that anyone who has complaints against her or who has information concerning her antipopular activities contact the Islamic Revolutionary Court of Mashhad before the end of Sunday, 20 May, to present their documents.

Police Officials Sentenced

ID181317 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 May 79 ID

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch, Emamshahr's Islamic Revolutionary Court held a session yesterday in order to study the dossiers of a number of accused and investigated the accusations leveled at an officer and two police officials. According to our correspondent's dispatch, the revolutionary court sentenced the accused for opening fire on the people and threatening and terrorizing the Emamshahr strugglers, as follows:

Maj Rezaqoli Beygi, assistant head of the police, for the crime of opening fire on and assault and battery against the people was sentenced to 2 years' exile in Khorramabad, termination of his service during exile and deprivation of all social rights during exile. Police Sergeant Zolfaqari was sentenced to 5 years' exile to Anarak, Yazd, permanent termination of service, two whipping of 30 lashes each and deprivation of all social rights during his exile; and Police Sergeant (Khandid) was sentenced to 2 years' exile in Zabol, permanent termination of service and deprivation of all social rights during his exile and 30 lashes.

Babol Court Issues Sentences

ID181320 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 May 79 ID

[Text] The first session of Babol Islamic Revolutionary Court was held Wednesday in the presence of the families of martyrs and a large number of people from various sections of the citizenry. The session investigated accusations leveled at gendarmerie 2d Lt Daryush Javid, accused of murdering martyr Gholam Reza Shokri and martyr Engineer Yadollah Talebi Bastami, staff member of the plan organization. In his defense the accused accepted the accusations leveled at him and begged the court for mercy. After 4 hours' deliveration the court deemed 2d Lt Karyush Javid a fighter against God and sentenced him to death. The death sentence was carried out at the former royal palace in Babol at 0130 this morning. According to a dispatch from our correspondent in Babol, the second session of Babol's Islamic Revolutionary Court was held yesterday afternoon in the presence of the families of martyr Seyyed Hasan Tajdaran. Following this the accused in his defense confessed to the accusations leveled against him. In view of the fact that the father and mother of the martyr announced their forgiveness of the said soldier, the court sentenced ordinary conscript soldier Ahmad Asghari to 2 years' reform imprisonment and punishment by the lash in accordance with Islamic religious law.

Zanjan Police Officers Sentenced

LD190915 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Zanjan's Islamic Revolutionary Court met yesterday afternoon to investigate the crimes of a number of the ringleaders of the hateful Pahlavi regime. The trial lasted 6 hours and the court passed sentences on four persons accused of first degree crimes as follows:

Javad Iraji, police sergeant and counterintelligence official from Zanjan police headquarters, was sentenced to 1 year's corrective imprisonment and compulsory transference from the Zanjan police headquarters;

Mohammad Hoseyn Safari Beyglu, better known as Rajab, police sergeant and counterintelligence official from the Zanjan police headquarters, was sentenced to 3 years' corrective imprisonment and 50 lashes in two separate sessions;

Baqer Zarqamiparast, a counterintelligence warrant officer at Zanjan police headquarters, was sentenced to 3 years' corrective imprisonment and 20 lashes in two sessions;

And Zekrollah Beygi, a counterintelligence sergeant at Zanjan police headquarters, was sentenced to 1 year's corrective imprisonment and compulsory transference from Zanjan police headquarters.

Mashhad Court Issues Sentences

LD222138 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] According to our colleague in the Khorasan radio and television center, in Mashhad, that city's Islamic revolution court, after investigating the dossiers of five agents of the previous regime, issued its verdicts on their guilt tonight.

Accordingly, Hedayat Zamani, an ordinary conscript soldier accused of murdering innocent people, has been sentenced to death. Police Sgt Mohammad Zebarjadi, accused of collaborating with the former regime, arresting a guerrilla and taking part in premeditated assault resulting in murder, was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment and expulsion from the police after completing his sentence. 'Ali Akbar [words indistinct], accused of collaborating with the previous regime, arresting a guerrilla, participating in deliberate assault resulting in death, was sentenced to 9 months' imprisonment. Dr Mahvash Nikju, former professor at the college of letters and humanities in Mashhad's Ferdowsi University, for being guilty of continually collaborating with SAVAK both within and outside the country and reporting on professors and students and creating an atmosphere of repression in the university, was sentenced to 1 year's corrective imprisonment and expulsion from the university and being banned from government jobs. (Sar Nezam) Chaykhani, accused of collaborating with SAVAK and engineering demonstrations by club wielders, was sentenced to 6 months' corrective imprisonment.

I would like to add that the sentence on the person accused of a first degree crime, Hedayat Zamani, the ordinary conscript soldier, who has been sentenced to death, will be carried out at 0200 tomorrow morning.

PROSECUTOR SEEKS EVIDENCE AGAINST 14 SAVAK EMPLOYEES

LD221910 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 May 79 LD

[Text] The Islamic revolution's public prosecutor for Central Province has issued a list of the names of 14 people accused by the public prosecutor's office, so that those who may have information about or complaints against them may communicate it together with the necessary evidence. The names of these people are as follows:

1. Col Hushang Salimi-Tehrani, head of SAVAK in Ahvaz, Ardabil, Tabriz, Azarbayjan Province and Bushehr;
2. Ruhollah Me'bar, interrogator of SAVAK in Ahvaz, particularly of students from Jondi Shapur University;
3. Fereydun Salimi-Tehrani, interrogator;
4. Mohammad Amir-Samsampur, deputy head of SAVAK in Rasht and Abadan;
5. Colonel Parniani, head of SAVAK in Karaj;
6. 'Ali-Asghar Sadeqi-Yeganeh, specialist interrorgator;
7. 'Abdollah Zolfaqari, member of the assistance squad of the so-called Joint Sabotage and Counterintelligence Committee;
8. Ahmad Afsari, interrogator of SAVAK in Reza'iyeh in 1975, of the Joint Sabotage and Counterintelligence Committee of SAVAK in Tehran and head of operations in Khorramabad;
9. Colonel Ahmadi, head of SAVAK in Arak;
10. Hushang Amir-Afsharnia, head of the Evin and Qezel Qal'eh prisons;
11. Karim Basernia, head of SAVAK in Qom, interrogator, torturer and arresting officer;
12. Valiyollah Qiasi, member of the mobile patrol at Evin prison;
13. Parviz Hajji Faraji, member of the mobile and arresting patrol group at Evin prison; and
14. Mohsen Naderian, better know as Mohsen Taksibil.

PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRANT SEES PERSISTING U.S. DANGER TO IRAN

LD230751 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 21 May 79 p 6 LD

[Interview granted by Dr 'Ali Shayagan Shirazi to 'Abd al-Hadi Mahfuz in Tehran--date not given]

[Text] Tehran--Dr 'Ali Shayagan Shirazi was a minister in Mossadeq's government. Following the military coup in 1953 he was sent to jail for 1 year. Before he was exiled he was known as a strong defender of persecuted politicians in the courts. Because of his record of struggle he is unanimously supported by all the Iranian political forces with their various leanings. He is the most likely candidate for the presidential post.

AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI conducted the following interview with Dr Shirazi:

Question: How do you evaluate the Iranian experiment and its potential?

Answer: The ousting of the shah from Iran and the liquidation of the previous regime was the greatest blessing for the Iranian people. The Iranian masses, under Ayatollah Khomeyni's guidance, have achieved a victory which they will preserve with their blood and all their strength. Nevertheless, the revolution is facing many problems. Some of these problems are due to the previous authorities and to general social backwardness. But the problems that have been occurring just now can be avoided. They have happened because the three previous authorities--the executive, the legislature and the judiciary--have not been dismantled. I hope that these problems will be solved with the people's efforts.

Iran's future will become good when a constitutional democratic regime is established. Without this the present freedom will be in danger.

Question: Do you believe that the United States has left Iran?

Answer: The expulsion of the shah was a decisive blow to the United States. Also the nonexport of oil to South Africa and Israel has had its obvious effect in this regard. Nevertheless, the danger still exists. So far the massive capital linked to the United States has not been nationalized, the secret and open treaties between Iran and the United States have not been made public and the fate of these treaties has not been decided. The danger of U.S. influence returning and doing away with the revolution's gains still exists. Imperialism is always lying in wait in order to exploit the revolution's weak points. Through its well-known and unknown agents, it is trying to keep Iran more closely linked to it.

Question: Are you making any efforts to bring together "the National Front" and "the Democratic National Front?"

Answer: The effort that I have been making is always aimed at drawing the attention of all the nationalists to the fact that the only way to preserve freedom is for them to cooperate on points and subjects on which they all agree.

Question: What is your opinion of the Islamic government's program?

Answer: I have often said that the government's program so far is not clear. Therefore, I have been unable to give an opinion of this program. So far no program in the name of the Islamic state has been submitted by any quarter of religious authority.

Question: Do you approve of self-rule for the national minorities?

Answer: Not only do I approve of self-rule but I also consider it one of the democratic conditions. But I generally believe that self-rule must be within the framework of national unity and independence. Fortunately the national minorities have often declared that to divide the country would suit imperialism.

Question: You have been nominated for the presidency of the republic. Are you now preparing yourself to fight the presidential election battle?

Ansser: I did not nominate myself for the presidency of the republic. Rather, many people of good intentions nominated me of their own will. I have returned to Iran after 21 years of exile in order to see my beloved country, its citizens and my relatives and not in order to become president of the republic. In the press many support my nomination to the presidency but I have no role in this regard. I did not contact anybody for this purpose.

Question: What do you expect the new Iranian constitution to include? Do you expect the activities of the communist and leftist parties to remain public as they are now?

Answer: I have often given my views regarding the new constitution. The new constitution must take into consideration the freedom of everybody. The draft constitution that was unofficially made public could be subject to wide criticism. One of the subjects open to criticism is the constitutional control committee. This committee's powers are greater than those of the assembly elected by the people. This is undemocratic. I demand that all the parties, including the leftist parties, should have freedom of expression and views. I exclude from this the parties connected with the previous regime and the parties associated with foreigners, because the Iranian revolution has expelled these parties.

LONDON PAPER: SHARI'AT-MADARI RETURNS TO LIMELIGHT

LD181039 London THE GUARDIAN in English 18 May 79 p 21 LD

[Liz Thurgood "In the Iranian Town of Qom, Listens as Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari Talks to the Faithful"]

[Text] The gentle, self-effacing Ayatollah Kazem Shari'at-Madari, who took a relative backseat during the recent upheavals, is slowly inching his way back on to the political stage to try his hand at steering postrevolutionary Iran back to a more centrist, Islamic course.

After weeks of virtual silence, the 76-year-old ayatollah has criticised the handling of the press, the revolutionary courts by implication, and concluded that "many things are happening that are not Islamic...There are some elements that won't allow Islamic jurisprudence to prevail."

The ayatollah is in a good position to make such observations--mild by Western or even today's Iranian standards, but pretty damning when coming from one of the top Shi'ite leaders in the Muslim world. Given his years of study, the bespectacled ayatollah Shari'at-Madari ranks even above Ayatollah Khomeyni as Iran's best brain on Islamic law.

Seated on the floor of his simply furnished home, the ayatollah made it quietly clear that he objected to the recent handling of what has become "the AYANDEGAN affair." The morning newspaper is now "temporarily suspended" after Khomeyni's bureau issued a statement accusing AYANDEGAN of printing "false" and "depraved" news.

"There are regulations and laws to prosecute a newspaper that either wittingly or unwittingly makes a mistake," he said in what was understood to be a reference to the burning and seizure of several AYANDEGAN offices by armed revolutionaries or Khomeyni supporters in the provinces. "Threatening, attacking and burning are not acceptable methods (of dealing with the press)."

The ayatollah--who wears a black turban identifying him as a descendent of Prophet Mohammed--has recently taken some knocks himself in the local press. In a signed article, Sheykh Sadeq Khalkhali (one of his juniors and known in Tehran as a hard-liner or rightwinger) criticised the Islamic People's Party, supported by Shari'at-Madari, as "an umbrella for former members of the shah's secret police."

Although the ayatollah was not named in the article, the implication was clear. Big demonstrations supporting Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari promptly broke out in both Tehran and the provincial capital of Tabriz in Eastern Azarbaijan, where the ayatollah draws his largest following.

"I don't want to talk about (the Sheykh), it might be taken personally, but you have seen the many demonstrations," said Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari. He speaks slowly, allowing his scribes to get his words down correctly and his message to be understood by the many followers listening at his side.

Ayatollahs of Shari'at-Madari's marja'taghlid rank (the most senior among senior Shi'ite which quite literally means they have "the authority to be followed") don't apparently criticise the actions of their fellow clergymen. In addition to preferring to leave Sheykh Khalkhali alone, the ayatollah refused to be drawn on a recent controversial graveside speech in which Ayatollah Rafsanjani (who is not a Marja'Taghlid) attacked Iran's leftwing." "I did not hear the speech," he noted crisply.

Significantly, the holy Shi'ite city of Qom generally considers men like Rafsanjani and Khalkhali to be "the real Islamic revolutionaries." As in other Shi'ite strongholds across the country, Shari'at-Madari is known as something of an intellectuals' ayatollah, politically too much of a moderate for most Iranians. Settled in the 9th Century, Qom is still very much a small, dusty, provincial town, its 400,000 population only doubling up every Thursday and Friday--the days Khomeyni keeps aside to address the pilgrims from the Feyziyah school, where he launched his movement against the shah.

The ayatollah had more to say on the draft constitution, which was recently printed in the local press. He is believed to have made six or seven suggestions or "improvements" in a copy of an earlier draft, none of which appeared in the published and "totally changed" text.

He also made a special plea for a return to Islamic law, saying that the rights of the average Iranian are only being verbally respected. He argued succinctly for the accused to have the right of defense and appealed for more care to be taken over the increasingly controversial issue of whether or not the property of an accused man should be confiscated. "It is unfair to prosecute everyone who has dealt with the shah's regime," he said. "(All Iranians), even those who opposed (the shah), had to deal with his system."

The ayatollah was evidently annoyed by reports that those who had served the shah as parliamentarians, senators and civil servants might automatically stand to lose their civil rights for up to 10 years. Some members of the Majlis, Iran's lower house of parliament, had been active in the campaign to oust the shah, he noted.

Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari was careful to distance himself from the mainstream of Iranian political life, possibly holding himself up as an example of how the mosque should conduct itself vis-a-vis the government. "When (government officials) come to see me, I have made suggestions," he said, "but I have not intervened in the affairs of government, the revolutionary courts of the Revolutionary Islamic Council (which effectively runs Iran today.

Generally speaking, the five senior ayatollahs or marja'taghlid should keep away from the day-to-day business of running the country, he said. Two exceptions apparently exist to this rule: "The marja'taghlid (the other four are Ayatollahs Khoy, Khomeyni, Najafi and Golpaygani) can involve themselves in governmental affairs when a law has been enacted against the interest of Islam, the people or the constitution and, when "no authority" or government exists, such as last January/February when Khomeyni stepped in to fill the vacuum with a provisional prime minister.

Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari is evidently a concerned man, but he has not apparently told Ayatollah Khomeyni of his worries. Although his house is a bare 15-minute walk from Khomeyni's more modern residence, the two ayatollahs rarely meet except for an occasional glass of tea and pleasantries.

QOTBZADEH INTERVIEWED ON DOMESTIC, FOREIGN ISSUES

LD221433 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 21 May 79 pp 6, 7 LD

[Interview granted by director of Iranian radio and television Sadeq Qotbzadeh to 'Abd al-Hadi Mahfuz in Tehran--date not given]

[Text] Question: Does the provisional government have an economic and political program for this stage?

Answer: The broad lines of our policy are clear. They have been defined and decided during the revolutionary process but the details are still being worked out.

Question: What is your personal evaluation of the political situation in Iran and of the balances of political power?

Answer: The political situation in Iran is like a prison that has been opened and the prisoners set free. At the beginning the situation is ambiguous in that the actual authorities expressing the people's will, which are in the process of formation, will be waiting for their powers to take shape and mature. Certainly forces that have no clear political lines will be hesitant to join these constructive authorities. There are now groups that are being formed and are working. It is natural and understood that this is the basis of democracy. But we know at the same time that world powers are continuing to interfere and trying to exploit the present conditions.

Question: Some of those in the provisional government are accused of having ties with and leaning toward the United States. How true is this?

Answer: These are rumors spread by the leftists. They are currently repeating the same story as they did in the past. And since they are unacceptable to the people they have begun spreading rumors. All those in office now were for a long time victims of U.S. policy.

Question: What is the strategy of "the Iranian liberation movement" regarding the future?

Answer: In view of my present position in the television service, this question must be put to 'Ezzatollah Sahabi.

Question: But how effective is "the Iranian liberation movement" in the political and military fields, particularly since you are one of its leaders?

Answer: This question too must be put to Sahabi.

Question: What about the government's relationship with the left and how are its relations with the Islamic groups?

Answer: We have good relations with the Islamic groups. But as for the leftists, their policy is aimed at creating obstacles. What can be said, however, is that the present regime is not the same as the previous one.

Question: How are the government's relations with the National Front and former Minister Sanjabi?

Answer: The former National Front has become divided. As for Sanjabi, I have no relationship with him or with his friends.

Question: What is the reason behind the personal attacks on you?

Answer: There are several groups that differ with me in terms of opinions but there are certain groups that are entirely against me. These are groups of the previous regime and the leftists. They all use the same method and have the same source. They are against a democratic and independent Islamic state. The only thing that distinguishes them is that the previous regime described me as communist while the leftists accuse me of being pro-American whereas in fact I have been twice expelled from the United States.

Question: What about Iranian-Arab relations and which of the Arab countries is considered to be most friendly?

Answer: Our policy is clear. We are against world Zionism and Israel in particular. We are with all the Arabs who stand with the Palestinian cause and against Zionism. But at the same time we consider the way of Islam is the only way to defeat Zionism and imperialism. In other words, the concept of conflict between the Arabs and the Israelis must be abandoned and substituted by the concept of conflict between Muslims and Zionism. This is what matters.

Question: How do you look at the problem of national minorities and is there a program to solve it? Which circles are motivating these minorities?

Answer: There are a number of demands--fair demands. During the previous regime the whole country was destroyed in order to build Tehran and three-quarters of Tehran was destroyed in order to build the remaining quarter. The Iranian people's demands are true and fair vis-a-vis the minority that inhabits northern Tehran (that is the rich quarters). We fully agree with the demands from their economic, social and cultural aspects as there is no difference between Persians, Kurds and Turkomans. I believe that our brothers have begun to understand this--that we consider all the people equal. The leftists and their masters from abroad--from world imperialism--are trying to exploit the problem of national minorities.

Question: Qasemlu, secretary general of the Kurdish Democratic Party, says that there is no solution to the Kurdish problem except through self-rule or a federal system.

Answer: If Qasemlu had a wide popular base he would have held his press conference there (in Kordestan) and not in Tehran. He is afraid to live there. In the elections held in Sanandaj he did not obtain more than one-fourth of the votes. If you count the Kurds who want secession you would not find more than 5 percent of the Kurdish population. Of this Qasemlu has only 1 percent.

Question: Does this mean that self-rule or federalism would lead to Iran's being divided into small states?

Answer: In the present circumstances federalism would lead to partitioning. But we call for local elections on all levels--in the state, in the municipalities and in the towns. We are now drafting legislation. Within a month elections will be held in the provinces, towns, villages and municipalities. In other words, throughout Iranian territory.

Question: Do you intend to export the Iranian experiment outside your borders, particularly since Ayatollah Khomeyni has declared that the "revolutionary committees are in the service of brothers everywhere?"

Answer: We do not intend to interfere in the affairs of other countries. This is point No 1. Point No 2 is that we hope to establish an Islamic state that will be a model for the whole world, especially for Muslims. In this case it will be up to the Muslims to decide whether to join our movement or not.

Question: It is obvious that you are marking time before adopting a stand on relations with the two superpowers.

Answer: I have always said that we hope for friendly relations with all the countries, particularly with the two superpowers. The relations should be based on respect for our independence and noninterference in our domestic affairs. But so far this is not the rule because each side is trying to interfere in our internal affairs; we hope that they will stop.

Question: Is it true that some U.S. advisers have returned to Iran?

Answer: I do not think so.

Question: Do you belong to the "Islamic Republic Party?"

Answer: So far I have good relations with it but I hope to join it when time permits me. I am with this party because its leaders are also my friends.

Question: Going back to the provisional government, many people criticize it because it is evading the implementation of Khomeyni's instructions. There is talk about differences over this matter.

Answer: Those who say so are a small group of people who live by delusions and rumors. The regime is not powerful in all fields but it is trying day and night to face the country's real problems. But the regime has never tried to deviate from Khomeyni's instructions. If there were any differences between the government and Khomeyni, as some imagine, the government would not have been able to exist.

Question: A final question: There is criticism of radio and television programs. Some people blame you for not being able to follow the programs. What do you say to this?

Answer: Which people? The bourgeoisie of northern Tehran or the intellectuals who are influenced by Western culture? The people are in favor of the line we are pursuing and support the cadres operating here. I am still here. The ayatollah considers this post (director of television) as important as that of prime minister. I receive no salary, I have no house and I use the establishment's car. Those who have come with me are not receiving any salary. We are continuing our work because it is from this spot that the people's culture and the future of this culture is shaped.

Criticizes USSR, BBC, VOA

JN222013 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1745 GMT 22 May 79 JN

[Text] Sadeq Qotbzadeh, head of the Iranian Islamic Republic radio and television establishment, has strongly criticized the BBC for seeking to create confusion in the Iranian domestic situation.

Qotbzadeh also said that the Soviet Union is jamming Iranian wavelengths by making use of high-powered transmitters. It is noteworthy that this jamming took place a few days ago during one of the ayatollah's televised speeches in Azerbayjan.

The head of the radio and television establishment said that Iran will increase its international transmission programs to explain our revolution and ideology to the world in any language deemed necessary.

Mr Qotbzadeh added that Iran is facing a very fierce Soviet propaganda and information campaign. As long as they continue on this course, we have no choice but to treat everyone in the world in the same manner, he said.

Speaking again about the BBC, Qotbazadeh said that since the beginning of the Islamic revolution in Iran, the BBC has increased its transmission power. He added that the BBC is working day and night to distort and falsify facts about our revolution. He said that the British transmitters in Cyprus [words indistinct] and jamming more than six times in the past 7 or 10 days on the news broadcast at midnight from Tehran to Iranians abroad.

Qotbzadeh affirmed that we do not intend to remain silent or idle before the BBC's distortions and (?allegations).

Qotbzadeh said that the Voice of America, which transmits programs beamed to Iran, is (?also responsible) in this field.

NVOI DEFENDS VERDICTS OF REVOLUTIONARY COURTS

TA221210 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 21 May 79 TA

[Unattributed commentary: Our People Are Not Afraid of the Mud Slinging of Zionist Propaganda]

[Text] Dear compatriots, to the same degree that the just verdicts of the Islamic revolutionary courts of Iran regarding the punishment of criminals of the former regime are in line with the demands and aspirations of millions of our countrymen, they have aroused the wrath and [word indistinct] of the enemies of our nation, the enemies of the national and Islamic revolution and [words indistinct] inside and outside (?our country).

Enemy No 1 of the Iranian revolutionary nation--U.S. imperialism and the policy maker of that country--is shedding tears for the death of its (?stooges) who today, with the verdicts of the revolutionary courts, are receiving punishment for their crimes and treason. Undoubtedly they will also receive it in the future.

They are reminded of human rights in Iran, and this is not accidental. The reaction of U.S. imperialist circles--the loudspeakers of neocolonialism, especially the hired writers and propagandists of the plundering oil monopolies of the Western countries--regarding the just verdicts of the Iranian revolutionary courts did not surprise anybody because U.S. imperialism and imperialist circles should be in mourning.

They should shed tears for the death of agents of the bloody former regime because with the departure of the lackeys, murderers and professional traitors who have been and are being executed as a result of the verdicts of the revolutionary courts of our country, they have lost their faithful and loyal stooges and (?servants), servants who for many years by relying on [words indistinct] prison and torture committed the gravest crimes against the people and Iranian nation. They transformed our country into a colony of the United States of America and a flaming hell for the Iranian nation.

That satanic regime was overthrown by the able hands of the Iranian people and the new national order, the Islamic Republic of Iran, was established on the ruins of that castle. Now, our proud nation, the national and democratic forces and [word indistinct] to the revolution and its aspirations by building a new society have begun the elimination of the evil remains of the former regime. The establishment of revolutionary courts and the punishment of the remnants of the former bloody regime are among the revolutionary acts carried out in response to the demands of the Iranian nation. They are purely an internal affair and no one and no country has the right to interfere. Also, the Iranian people will not give the opportunity for such interference to anybody.

The U.S. Senate, the sensitive posts of which are in the hands of the Zionists [words indistinct] rashly and [word indistinct] allegedly condemns the just verdicts issued by the revolutionary courts of Iran. The U.S. Senate has warned that, if the revolutionary courts in Iran continue to issue their verdicts, relations between the U.S. and Iran [words indistinct].

How appropriate were the remarks by Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni about this revolution of the U.S. Senate's not surprising anybody. If it had been otherwise, it would have been astonishing. How were our relations with the United States in the past? The Americans treated Iran as a colony. The people of Iran have rejected such relations forever. The revolutionary Iranian nation (?condemns) the plundering interests and aggressive [word indistinct] of U.S. imperialism in our country, and the American authorities should realize now and henceforth that a return to the past is impossible and that the Iranian people will safeguard the revolution and its gains with claws and teeth.

The fact that the United States and its officials outwardly present themselves as the guardians of human rights and shed tears for the death of their agents in Iran are undoubtedly and absolutely not a sign of their concern for human rights. Rather, all this tumult is in regard to their plundering and [word indistinct] interests which have been jeopardized as a result of the victory of the Iranian revolution. Their tear shedding is for the sake of the aggressive Israeli Zionists who with complete impudence and [word indistinct] massacre the brave Palestinian nation. Everybody knows that U.S. imperialism and official authorities of that country supported the antinational regime of the former shah till the last moment and (?approved) of all the inhuman and anti-Iranian acts of the former regime.

SAVAK, which annihilated hundreds of thousands of the best sons of our country, was a branch of the CIA and acted in accordance with the plans and under the instructions of U.S. advisers. It was under the guidance of the Americans and their [word indistinct] that our [word indistinct] men, youth and children were (?killed) in the alleys and streets of our country, in the mosque, factory, school and university. [sentence indistinct]

Despite all these massacres and crimes, the Iranian nation attained victory. The Satanic regime of the former shah, supported by the United States, was thrown into the dustbin of history forever.

Today, those remnants of the former regime whose arms are stained up to the elbows with the blood of the best sons of our nation are arraigned before the [word indistinct] revolutionary courts and receive just punishment for their treacherous and criminal acts. The punishment of these criminals is a legitimate and just matter and also [word indistinct] the verdict of time and history. The Iranian nation is not afraid of the mud slinging of the propaganda organizations of a number of Zionist criminals in the United States and their associates in the West.

NVOI: PEOPLE SUPPORT SHAH'S DEATH SENTENCE

TA142130 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 2100 GMT 14 May 79 TA

[Text] Dear compatriots, the Islamic revolutionary courts sentenced traitor Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, the former shah, to death in absentia for the crimes he had committed against the property and the people of Iran.

The deposed former shah, who, during the revolution of our nation fled the country and is presently living under the wings of his (?protectors), was sentenced to death in absentia.

The news that the nation's courts of justice sentenced this criminal and traitor to death was received by the entire Iranian nation with great joy.

The people of our fatherland consider the verdict of the Islamic revolutionary courts in the case of the former shah as the verdict of the entire nation and they are confident that this criminal will finally be duly punished for his criminal and treacherous deeds and that the verdict of the Islamic revolutionary courts will be carried out.

The Iranian nation also considers this decision as an action taken toward the deepening and expansion of the revolution and the safeguarding of its achievements.

We know that with the toppling of the sinister royal regime and the establishment of a military regime in our country the revolution of Iran left a significant phase behind and has now entered the serious phase of renewed building and of eradicating the inauspicious traces of the former regime. In this phase the entire nation, all the groups, organizations and parties and the national and democratic forces are faced with new and pressing responsibilities. For example, the Islamic revolutionary courts also play a significant part toward this goal and in safeguarding the revolution's achievements.

By trying and punishing the criminals connected with the former regime they are realizing the wishes of the people. Therefore, it is not accidental that the people of our fatherland, young and old, men and women emphatically recommend and joyfully confirm the rightful and just verdicts of the Islamic courts in general and their verdict in the case of the former shah in particular.

There can be no doubt that the eradication of all the sinister traces of the former regime is one of the most important responsibilities confronting our nation. Without carrying it out, it would be impossible to build a new national order on the ruins of the former regime.

In this area, one of the responsibilities which must be resolved without wasting much time, is to purify, through the national and progressive forces, all the government apparatus, civilian, military, police, gendarme, those responsible for the criminal plans of the former regime and to eliminate particularly the former SAVAKists.

The fate and the future of the revolution of our people is tied to unity and unanimity in word and deed of all the national revolutionary forces, of all the progressive and democratic parties, organizations and groups.

The victory of the revolution is indebted to the efforts and struggles of the entire nation, to all the truly revolutionary parties, organizations and groups. Therefore, all these groups and organizations should make an effort to safeguard and enjoy the achievements of the revolution.

Under the present circumstances, we should emphasize the point that simultaneously with safeguarding the revolution, we should revise and reorganize the structure of the country's loyal forces and on the ruins of the former royal army the foundations of an army and peoples' revolutionary armed forces should be organized which will be of the people and will serve the people and their revolution.

It is evident that in order to accomplish the above goals our nation and the Islamic Revolutionary Republic, the national and democratic parties and organizations are faced with serious responsibilities and through forming a united front and with unanimity of word and deed they should strive to accomplish still more victories on the road to building a free and independent Iran.

The punishment of the enemies of the revolution and of those Iranians who are of the fabric of the traitor shah, whose sentence has been issued by the revolutionary courts, is an inspiration to all the people for safeguarding the achievements of the revolution.

LUR TRIBAL CHIEFTAINS PROTEST SLIGHT

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 16 May 79 p 3 WA

[Text] Dowrud--Chieftains of the Bakhtiar Lur tribes who visited Imam Khomeyni in Qom last week have protested the lack of radio and television reporting of their meeting with Imam Khomeyni.

These chieftains said that they went to a lot of personal trouble to go to Qom and then return to their tribal area and that they wanted their visit to be carried on television since it did report the meetings of others with the imam.

Also, a number of citizens of Dowrud made complaints to the local KEYHAN news office about this meeting's not having been carried on television programs.

AFGHANISTAN

AMIN 2 MAY INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN NEWSMEN

BK181255 Kabul TIMES in English 6 May 79 pp 1, 4 BK

[2 May interview given by Hafizollah Amin, first minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, to foreign correspondents at the First Ministry Palace in Kabul]

[Excerpts] Kabul, 6 May (BAKHTAR)--Hafizollah Amin, secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, member of the Politburo and first minister, received a number of foreign journalists at the First Ministry Palace last Wednesday for a press interview:

Hafizollah Amin expressed pleasure over meeting the journalists and answered their questions in an atmosphere of extreme sincerity.

Following is the full text of this interview which lasted from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Bulgarian correspondent:

Q. Esteemed first minister, would you please explain the basic gains of the foreign policy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan?

A. The major and prideful gains of our foreign policy is our active role in the nonalignment movement. We participated in its several gatherings such as Havana, Belgrade, and Maputo meetings and besides that we took part with profound interest in the conference of disarmament held in New York.

We have developed our friendly relations with many of the friendly countries and likewise extended friendship hand towards other countries wanting friendship with us. We signed the friendship and good neighbourliness treaty with the Soviet Union which is important for the peace of the region and the world. We withdrew our recognition of South Korea and officially recognised the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as the sole representative of the people of Korea.

We further developed our relations with the Republic of India. Both countries have expressed interest in and cooperation for consolidation of their relations. We were among the first countries which recognised the new state of Kampuchea. We have supported the legitimate rights of the peoples of Ethiopia, Angola and Palestine and will do so. We have been in close contact with the active countries of the nonaligned movement with the object to further develop this movement and prevent creation of misunderstanding which may lead to a division.

The above points constitute the main gains of the foreign policy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Cuban correspondent:

Q. I would like to ask how do you see the withdrawal of Iran and Pakistan from the CENTO pact?

Similarly, how do you evaluate their willingness for joining the nonaligned movement?

A. As I said earlier we are sternly against all the aggressive military pacts and on the basis of this conviction we were opposing the existence of the CENTO pact. We welcome the action of any country withdrawing from military grouping.

FINANCIAL TIMES of London:

Q. In connection with the question of my Cuban colleague about the withdrawal of Iran and Pakistan from the CENTO pact I would like to ask whether your country supports the membership of these two countries in the nonaligned movement?

A. I said earlier that we support the action of any country leaving the aggressive military pacts.

FINANCIAL TIMES correspondent:

Q. Therefore, you support the membership of these two countries.

A. I said we welcome any country which withdraws from the aggressive military pacts.

Bulgarian correspondent:

Q. How has been the effect of the blows which Afghanistan dealt to the reactionary elements inside and outside of your country?

A. As said earlier, with the Great Sawr Revolution the political power was transferred from the feudal class to the toiling people of Afghanistan. Meanwhile measures were taken for the purpose of bringing about economic and ideological revolution. All the reactionary quarters which were supporting feudalism in Afghanistan do not exist now in Afghanistan to be able to reflect the propaganda of foreign reaction saying many things against our revolution. Therefore, these reactionary quarters have been disappointed in Afghanistan. The revolutionary measures taken in Afghanistan assure the toilers that whatever promises given to them by the party and the government will be realised. In international affairs the class nature of our regime and state has been clear.

Our rightful and legal acts against reaction and agents of imperialism have drawn the vast support of the progressive forces of the world and caused disappointment and grief to reaction and imperialism.

Washington Post:

Q. Would you please comment on Article 4 of the treaty of friendship and good neighbourliness signed between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union especially in connection with the visit of General Yepishev to Kabul? Can you say what kind of assistance can be made available to Afghanistan under these terms?

A. The friendship between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union is not something new but it has a 60-years historical root and has reached the state of maturity and sincerity which we call the stage of brotherhood because these relations have developed in a period of 60 years and during this time no incident has occurred to cause any disturbance in the relations between the two countries.

This friendship has passed the test of time and is a good example of friendship for all the world. One of the criteria of friendship between the two countries is understood from the fact that the Soviet Union assists us with more than 1,000 million dollars in our 5-year plan.

With regard to the defence provision of this treaty I deem it worth mentioning that in my political life I have had the honour of honesty following my beloved leader Comrade Nur Mohammad Taraki, expecially after the victory of the great revolution when this unbreakable bond and the pursuance of the opinion of the great leader of the people of Afghanistan emerged as an historical principle which cannot be ignored.

As such in line with this historical principle I confirm what my beloved leader Comrade Taraki has told you. The defence provision of this treaty is based on what we need, what we want and what we need for the defence of the country and that would be made available to us by our friends and brothers.

Washington POST:

Q. Would this include the presence of the Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan's soil? Have you raised this question with your Soviet friends? If so what has been their response?
A. I do not know whether you know that after the Great October Revolution the Soviet soldiers have not entered into any country. If you say so I do not have any information.

Washington POST:

Q. Yes in 1968 General Yepishev entered Czechoslovakia.
A. It was on the demand of the people of Czechoslovakia for the defence of the interest of the people and their homeland.

Washington POST:

Q. It is true. If the people of Afghanistan demand that the Soviet soldiers come to Afghanistan would it be accepted?
A. Such need has not been so far felt but if required we have no concern about any assistance.

Washington POST:

Q. I want this question to get cleared. Should help be demanded by you would the Soviet Union agree to send her soldiers to the territory of Afghanistan?
A. I should not speak on behalf of them. We have not so far raised this issue with them. But the Soviet friendship assures us that whatever we want they would furnish it to us. However, we have not so far raised the question of military personnel with them.

Cuban correspondent:

Q. Would you please say something about the relations of army with the people after the revolution?
A. The Armed Forces of the people of Afghanistan are led by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and military commanders are in general members of the Peoples' Democratic Party of Afghanistan. The party is with the people and enjoys the support of the people. The party is highly linked with the people. This is why the Afghan soldier is part of the people of his country and he sees his pride among the people and in profound connection with the people. It is for the first time in the history of our country that such a firm and close connection has been established between the people and the army.

GDR correspondent:

Q. As I am stationed in India I want to ask about the relations of Afghanistan with India. You always talk of your very good relations with India. Would you please explain the factor behind your good relations with India?
A. Historical and cultural relations between the two countries constitute the factors behind the friendly relations of Afghanistan and India. We are very close with one another.

In the international arena we are both members of the non-aligned movement and are desirous of cooperation. On the economic front India helps Afghanistan and there are good growing trade relations between the two countries.

GDR correspondent:

Q. A good number of organisations have been created in your country since the Great Sawr Revolution for the purpose of bringing unity between various productive strata of the society. Would you please give some explanation on your policy about creation of a united front comprising of all the toiling strata and classes?

My second question is about the form and procedures of the Khalqi organisations called revolution defence committees.

A. Every society has evolved in accordance with the objective laws of evolution of society. These are general laws and principles. Similarly, there are special and definite laws and principles coping with the sociological requirements of the society. As far as social characteristics and principles are concerned Afghanistan has its own special characteristics. The glorious Sawr Revolution is completely different as far as special laws are concerned from other revolutions which have triumphed within the framework of the general laws of evolution. Thus the organisations which have been brought about for revolution and its defence are different in form from the organisations existing in other countries. And in Afghanistan there exists a front in its special form to unite all the patriots, toilers and progressive elements so as to defend the workers revolution of the country and the interests of the working class and new society and that are unions of workers, and unions of other toiling classes, Khalqi organisation for Afghan youth, Khalqi organisation for Afghan women and a number of others. These organisations act as a united front and meanwhile through these organisations opportunity is made available to all the members of the society to take part in politics and actively participate in the political affairs of the people and their country.

The revolution defence committees are also a type of these Khalqi organisations which have been brought about by the people themselves and the members of the society for defence and protection of the revolution and foiling of the antirevolution conspiracies.

Hungarian correspondent:

Q. Esteemed President of the Revolutionary Council Nur Mohammad Taraki has said that the Sawr Revolution from the standpoint of sociology acts like penicillin. But there are a number of people who resist even against penicillin. What kind of treatment will be given to this section of the Afghan society?

A. Penicillin is an antibiotic eliminating antihuman health germs. But germs also try to resist. The Great Sawr Revolution cleans the Afghan society of the existence of feudalism, reaction and domination of imperialism and will not allow them to harm the health of our people any more. It tries to bring about a prosperous society. These enemies of the health of our society also resist as far as they can. If they have been driven out of the body of the Afghan society they live with other parasites outside of Afghanistan.

GDR Correspondent:

Q. Following the previous question I would like to ask you to give some information on the main targets of the 5-year plan of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan which has enormous importance in the process of revolution of Afghanistan.

A. From the economic point of view the first 5-year plan of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will abolish the legacy of the feudal society and from the cultural standpoint it will bring a revolutionary change in the society and give it a progressive direction.

Land reforms will be completed and firm steps will be taken for the development of agriculture and industrial development will take place in Afghanistan embracing major industrial projects such as copper industry, oil refinery and the like. Eradication of illiteracy also has a special place in the 5-year plan.

We have drafted the 5-year economic and social development plan of the country on the basis of scientific methods and precise planning estimation. We expect to implement the plan prior to the time set because the people of Afghanistan will extend with profound interest close cooperation in implementing the plan and will carry out the tasks voluntarily. This makes us sure that the said plan will be implemented properly and completed in shorter time.

FINANCIAL TIMES correspondent:

Q. Would you please explain your relations with Iran especially after the protest given by that country last week?

A. Since the inception of our revolution we have been desirous of having good relations with all the countries of the world especially with our neighbours and are honestly loyal to the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of others. On the basis of this principle since the start of revolution we extended a friendship hand towards the people of Iran and in this manner we followed our goodwill after the new regime came into existence in Iran. We have good evidence in this regard and you can see the congratulatory cables sent to Tehran on this occasion in which we expressed expectation for the further development of the relations between the two countries and we showed even willingness for export of meat to Iran. Unfortunately any regime which is based on religious fanaticisms can little make realistic judgement. For instance, when the fanatic religious leaders of Iran sat on the throne of power they had a fanatic religious way of thinking and problems arised from there.

This was what happened in the relations of Afghanistan and Iran and I am sure that our great leader Nur Mohammad Taraki, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and president of the Revolutionary Council has given enough explanation on the events of Herat and the interferences of Iranians made in the guise of Afghans.

Washington POST:

Q. Taking into account the point that Iran has sent 4,000 persons to attack Herat would it be thought that Iran has trained special groups for the purpose of incursion into Afghanistan? Because as far as we have seen the Iranian Army has been dissolved and military barracks evacuated?

A. In Iran a famous newspaper is printed in the name of "Payam-i-Emroz" which you can read it. In this paper, all facts have been disclosed in details how the Government of Iran trains people and sends them to Afghanistan.

Bulgarian correspondent:

Q. How do you evaluate the role of your government in the economic, social and cultural life of the people of Afghanistan?

A. The present regime of Afghanistan is a workers state. We call it Khalqi. This government is the workers' government defending the interests of the toiling people and serving the industrious people. Our government is part of the people and is for the people and enjoys the wide support of the people. The government is run under the leadership of party of revolution, the revolution which has left behind the feudal stage and follows up the path towards a society where there will exist no exploitation of man by man.

Washington POST:

Q. Your government and party during the recent months have accused a number of countries of hatching conspiracy against your Khalqi revolution. Is it possible to give a brief list of the countries you have accused, the sources they are financed with, and the type of arms, or money and other documents you have secured to prove your claims?

A. We have authentic and undeniable documents at our hand such as hand written documents, printed materials, money and recorded tapes and also arms and even trained personnel all proving the direct interference of some imperialist and reactionary quarters and countries, and reactionary regimes of medieval ages and left extremists. Here we refrain from mentioning their names because we do not want to disturb our relations with them and we still expect that our relations with the said countries will improve and develop. But the enemies of our revolution can be found out from the scientific concepts which are explained and they are: imperialism, international reaction and left extremists who have joined hands and are plotting against us and throwing rocks on the path of our revolution.

FINANCIAL TIMES:

Q. Do the three groups act unitedly?

A. One way or another they cooperate with one another directly or indirectly. You might have read the publications of our party or state to the effect that a number of religious and reactionary leaders through governmental or nongovernmental imperialist circles trained by one or several imperialist countries mainly in Paris and London, carry poisonous propaganda against our revolution and they are reflected in other countries through radios connected with them.

Moscow Radio correspondent:

Q. The national exhibition of the Soviet Union was opened in Kabul a few days ago on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of political relations of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union and on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Great Sawr Revolution. How do you assess holding of such exhibitions in the development of the mutual relations between the two countries?

A. I am sure that the display of such exhibitions has valuable and important role in the development of the relations of the two countries and we warmly welcome them. The public interest in this exhibition is measured by the number of people visiting it. As far as I know the number of visitors of this exhibition is increasing two-fold or more day by day.

TASS correspondent:

Q. Your revolution showed that it has friends and enemies. In your yesterday's speech you pointed to Islamabad, Tehran, London and Beijing. What do you say about the part of Beijing in supporting the anti-revolutionary elements who are at present in Pakistan?

A. As I said earlier I do not talk definitely about any country but I explained in my speech that propaganda which is broadcast from the BBC in London is reflected in Islamabad, Tehran and Beijing. This is completely obvious and nobody can deny it; even Beijing does not deny it either.

FINANCIAL TIMES:

Q. What is the reaction of your government against the expulsion of several thousand Afghans who were working in Iran?

A. If this phenomenon occurred in the friendship of the present circles of Iran with the revolution of Afghanistan in that case it would have meant something. But as you witness for yourselves Shari'at-Madari and other fanatic religious leaders of Iran think adversely about our Khalqi revolution and our country and want to arouse the religious feelings of a number of our toiling people under the name of Shiite. This has been realised well by our patriots. In this case the expulsion of Afghans from that country is not something strange.

FINANCIAL TIMES correspondent:

Q. Do you know how many Afghans have been expelled from Iran?

A. No, I don't know.

Washington POST correspondent:

Q. They say around one million Afghans worked in Iran. Due to economic stagnation in Iran a number of Afghan workers who had been working in roads and construction projects returned home but another number did not.

A. A great number of the Afghan workers returned home. As land distribution began in the country they found out that they could have land in their homeland and work on their land. Therefore we have no concern over their return and we can provide them with land and employment.

Washington POST:

Q. Hasn't this created any political or economic problem to you?

A. If they are Afghans they would return to Afghanistan without any intention of sabotage or adversive activity. In that case it would not be of any concern. You know that sometime ago trouble was created in Herat by Iranians who had been settled in Herat in the guise of Afghans.

Washington POST:

Q. My question was about the Afghans who worked in Iran and earned money and large funds entered into Afghanistan from this source. Hasn't any political or economic problem been created from this regard?

A. No, this question has not created to us any economic or political problem. In case the real Afghans enter the country we would welcome their entry. We have been grieved by Iranians who enter into our soil in the Afghan guise and make direct interference in our internal affairs.

Washington POST:

Q. The Afghans who were working in Iran earned good income. Now that these workers have returned home hasn't any problem been created in view of the lack of such income?

A. We can create employment for them in Afghanistan because we give them land and can make use of our manpower in our first 5-year plan. This was a small part of creative work which they could do for any country. While they were constructing Iran they were paid just a few negligible rials which is not considered a great economic factor. If an Afghan worker did a work costing 1,000 rials he was paid against his labour a maximum amount of 100 rials and this was clearly a severe exploitative situation. We have no concern about the return of these workers because we want to make use of this force in construction of Afghanistan. We encounter no problem from the meager income they earn here. They take effective part in boosting production in the country.

GDR journalist:

Q. You talked of economic development and economic revolution. Can you give the name of any large projects or any other definite economic development programmes?

A. As I said earlier land reforms is a gigantic project eliminating feudalism in the country from the economic point of view. Industrial projects are also undertaken in Afghanistan and are nearing completion. Most important among them are Ainak cooper project, gas extracting project, oil refinery project, and power station projects. Similarly road construction and communication projects, cooperative projects, peasant assistance funds are among very effective development projects of our country.

Hungarian correspondent:

Q. In the Western press your statements are quoted that your plans are not socialistic but are cooperative. What do you say about this?

A. As I said earlier cooperative plans are underway in Afghanistan and cooperatives are coming into existence in Afghanistan.

I said earlier that we do not use the term "front." We have no "united front" in Afghanistan as far as its political connotation is concerned. But in reality there exists a united front. For laying the foundation of a society void of exploitation of man by man co-operation of peasants is needed which is called differently in different countries. In Afghanistan cooperative movement is very interesting for our peasants. A great number of them take part in cooperatives; around 100,000 families have so far taken part in this movement and the number is increasing rapidly and this will have a great role in the growth of a society void of exploitation of man by man. The peasants will benefit very much from it.

FINANCIAL TIMES correspondent:

Q. Esteemed first minister, is Afghanistan interested in RCD [Regional Cooperation for Development] membership?

A. No.

GDR correspondent:

Q. Studying the press one may find out that the 5-year plan will be drafted at the end of August and then will be approved by the Revolutionary Council. Is this impression of mine true?

A. Our 5-year plan is vastly under study and scrutiny and the basic directives of the plan have already been approved and published.

The details of this plan will be completed at the end of August and middle of September, that is the month of Sunbula. It will then be discussed in the Revolutionary Council. But the first year plan of the 5-year plan embracing the projects of the first year has been completed and approved by the Revolutionary Council.

Cuban correspondent:

Q. Would you please explain the current events within the framework of the policy of nonalignment?

A. The enemies of the nonaligned movement want to create a rift in this movement. They want to degrade the high importance of the conference of nonaligned countries which is going to be held in Havana this year. But the countries which believe that the nonaligned movement is a great factor for the world peace are trying to prove useful and effective for the development of this movement and foil all the conspiracies and plots unleashed by the enemies.

FINANCIAL TIMES correspondent:

Q. Esteemed First Minister, in continuation with my previous question about RCD I would like to ask whether Afghanistan is desirous to link its economy with COMECON?

A. We have not talked with any country on this issue but will carry out whatever we deem useful for our people.

FINANCIAL TIMES correspondent:

Q. Would you take any practical action to bring your economy closer to COMECON countries?

A. As I said we have not talked with any one about this.

FINANCIAL TIMES correspondent:

Q. What is the stand of Afghanistan towards the Pakhtunistan issue. Has any step been taken for the solution of this issue?

A. This is one of the issues on which we cannot talk in detail. We do not want to undermine the friendly relations which we want to maintain with Pakistan. We are desirous of peaceful solution of the national issue of the Pakhtun and Baluch people through talks with Pakistan. Several journalists have asked me this question and I did not talk in deputh about this issue and all answers have been confined to this much expression.

FINANCIAL TIMES correspondent:

Q. Haven't you taken any initiative?

A. As I said no further comment is required. Whatever I have said since the Sawr Revolution is that we want to solve the national issue of the Pakhtun and Baluch people through peaceful talks. This is the general framework of our stand.

Radio Moscow reporter:

Q. Comrade Hafizollah Amin, the first minister, would you please give us some information on the gains of the revolution with regard to campaign against illiteracy?

A. We have drawn up the plan of absorbing one million people in the literacy courses in one year time. Now that we are in the first month of the first year of the 5-year plan we have one million persons enrolled in literacy courses.

These courses are voluntarily taught by the patriots without any wage. We have studied a definite budget in this regard. As the literacy programme has been expanding enormously and has received more attention than we were expecting it necessitates a definite budget.

FINANCIAL TIMES correspondent:

Q. How does your government estimate the number of illiterates in your country?

A. 95 percent.

KABUL TIMES PUBLISHES STATEMENT ON PAKISTANI 'AGGRESSION'

BK191328 Kabul TIMES in English 10 May 79 p 1 BK

["DRA statement: World Told of Pak Aggression"--Kabul TIMES headline]

[Text] Despite that Pakistani soldiers always attack our borders and Sarandoy [national police organization] posts and after killing they draw back as a result of crushing blows of our border forces, on Sawr 18 (May 9) a large number of Pakistani forces which were equipped with light and heavy arms attacked the Wazakhaw Woleswali [subgovernorate--an administrative unit which applies both to the office of the subgovernor and to the area] of Paktia province and ruined the Troo village in the Afghan soil.

When the Afghan security forces acted against them and pushed them back they fled in the cover of the night.

We once again warn the Pakistan Government that it plays with the destiny of peace of the region and wants to kindle such a fire in which a large number of those occupying foreign lands and carry undue aggressions will be burnt.

BANGLADESH

BURMA PRESIDENT NE WIN HOLDS TALKS WITH ZIA

BK221627 Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 22 May 79 BK

[Text] President Ne Win of Burma called on President Ziaur Rahman at Banga Bhavan today. The Burmese president stayed with President Zia for about 1 and a half hours and discussed with him matters of mutual interest. The members of the Burmese Council of State, U Thaung Kyi and Dr Hla Han; the Burmese foreign minister, Mr Myint Maung; and the Burmese ambassador to Bangladesh were present on the occasion.

The foreign minister, Prof Mohammad Shamsul Haq, and the Bangladesh ambassador to Burma were also present.

Zia, Ne Win Banquet Speeches

BK230508 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 23 May 79 BK

[Text] President Zia has said that Bangladesh believes in peace and in the policy of goodneighborly relations which are essential for the economic and social development of our region. Speaking at a state banquet given by him in honor of the visiting Burmese president, U Ne Win, at Banga Bhavan last night, he said it is for these reasons that Bangladesh has taken and will continue to take positive steps to promote peace and stability, particularly in South and Southeast Asia. President Zia said both Bangladesh and Burma have consistently expressed their solidarity with the third world and firmly supported the establishment of a new international economic order based on justice and fair play. He maintained that the two friendly countries also hold similar views on most of the important international issues.

President Zia also said that Bangladesh firmly believes that strict adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter is the best policy for global peace and stability. As a member of the Security Council, we are determined to uphold these principles, he said.

The president recalled the signing of the agreement with Burma in July last providing for the repatriation of Burmese refugees. He said the agreement is an important landmark in our common search for durable peace in the region. He said there are many avenues for cooperation between the two countries. The machinery for such cooperation has already been established under various agreements and arrangements between Dacca and Rangoon.

In his reply, the Burmese president said that the relationship between Bangladesh and Burma has been nourished by the fairness and consideration which prevailed on both the sides. President Ne Win expressed the confidence that his current visit will further deepen and strengthen the existing mutual understanding and friendship between the two neighboring countries. He said given mutual respect and sympathetic understanding both Bangladesh and Burma [words indistinct] relationship.

The banquet, followed by a cultural show, was attended among others by Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman, Speaker Mr Mirza Ghulam Hafiz, Cabinet ministers and a number of elite of the city.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM MOROCCO VIA SAUDI ARABIA

BK190546 Dacca Overseas Service in English 0445 GMT 19 May 79 BK

[Text] The Islamic foreign ministers conference in Morocco set up an experts committee to work out details of an institutional arrangement for settling disputes between Islamic countries. This was stated by the Bangladesh foreign minister, Prof Mohammad Shamsul Haq, who returned to Dacca yesterday after leading the Bangladesh delegation at the conference. He said the experts committee is to review the Bangladesh proposal for a standing committee of ministers and submit its report to the next Islamic foreign ministers conference to be held in Pakistan next year. He said the Bangladesh proposal for such an arrangement for settling disputes between Islamic countries at the initial stage was well received at the conference. He said the Bangladesh delegation made a number of other suggestions for greater economic cooperation among the member countries. Larger investments, joint economic ventures through the pooling of human and material resources, greater cooperation between the Islamic banks and the Islamic chambers of commerce and industry also figured prominently in the discussions.

The foreign minister said the most striking outcome of the conference is the renewed pledge and determination of the Islamic countries to make all possible efforts to preserve the unity and solidarity of the Muslim countries and work for realizing the rights of the Palestinians and regain the Arab lands including the holy city of Jerusalem to its rightful owners. He said the conference viewed this as the central theme for the establishment of lasting peace in the Middle East.

On his way back home, the foreign minister visited Riyadh to deliver a letter from President Ziaur Rahman to King Khalid of Saudi Arabia. The foreign minister said during his meeting with the Saudi monarch they discussed various decisions adopted at the Islamic foreign ministers conference and their implications. King Khalid expressed his appreciation of the role played by Bangladesh at the Islamic conference.

INDIA

SANJAY GANDHI ARRESTED IN DEHRA DUN

BK220307 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 May 79 BK

[Text] In Dehra Dun, Mr Sanjay Gandhi was arrested yesterday along with 200 of his supporters for defying prohibitory orders. Mr Gandhi, who had gone to Dehra Dun in connection with the ONGC [Oil and Natural Gas Commission] Maruti road rollers case, shouted slogans against the judge and the government in the court compound.

INDIRA GANDHI CALLS FOR JANATA PARTY RESIGNATION

OW222318 Hong Kong AFP in English 2203 GMT 22 May 79 OW

[Text] New Delhi, May 22 (AFP)--Former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi told the press in Madras in Tamil Nadu state in south India today that the ruling Janata Party should have resigned when it failed to muster enough strength to introduce the Constitution (46th amendment) Bill in the lower house of Parliament on May 17.

It may be recalled Prime Minister Morarji Desai rejected the demand for the resignation of his government when it failed to push through the bill for want of required majority.

The bill seeks to confer constitutional status on minorities commission and the commission for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. It fell through the first stage of voting amid vociferous protests from the opposition benches.

A constitution amendment requires a simple majority of the total membership of the house and two-thirds majority of those who present the bill and vote. A large number of Janata members in the house which has a membership of 543 were absent. The motion for consideration secured only 205 votes with seven opposing.

Talking to the press on her arrival at Madras after a visit to the cyclone affected areas in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh state, Mrs. Gandhi claimed pressure was exerted at "all levels" which necessitated her pulling out from contesting the parliamentary poll from Thanjavur constituency in Tamil Nadu. She charged that Prime Minister Morarji Desai pressurised Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Mr. Ramachandran to change his mind about supporting her.

Meanwhile, Mr. Ramachandran said that he apprehended "serious law and order problems" if Mrs. Gandhi contested the parliamentary by-election from Thanjavur. He said his regional Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazghagam Party never invited Mrs Gandhi to be a candidate from Thanjavur. It had only offered support if she chose to contest. Mr. Ramachandran, however, denied he discussed the Thanjavur elections with Mr. Desai when he met him in New Delhi recently.

NEPAL

STUDENT DEMANDS MET, DETAINEES TO BE FREED

BK220423 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 21 May 79 BK

[Text] Three members of the Students Action Committee, after their discussions with the Royal Commission [set up to look into students grievances], have stated the demands of the students have been fulfilled and, as such, have appealed to all the students to end their strike and to be engaged in studies.

The three students, Mr (Balbahadur Kirti), (Somnath Kirki) and (Charanjit Malla) have based their appeal on their discussions with the commission and, on that basis, the Royal Commission has issued instructions to concerned units to fulfill the students demands.

Among the demands for which instructions have been given that they be fulfilled are the formation of an independent students body at national level, freeing of all students arrested so far under the security act, the dissolution of the Rashtrawadi Swatawtra Vidhyarthi Mandal, criminal charges not to be levelled against students arrested during the students movement and to release all students who have been (?detained).

It is also learned that the Royal Commission has issued instructions to the concerned units that all others arrested in connection with the students movement and not facing criminal charges should be released.

The Royal Commission has also instructed that examinations fees be charged in accordance with the subjects offered by private examiners, that arrangements be made for the decontrol of credit hours for that [examination] paper, and that arrangements are made to meet the internal demands at campus and university levels by the campuses and universities concerned. Moreover, there should be a representative of the campus union in the committee to be formed under the students (?supervision). Arrangements are also to be made under which if any student in the campus has been charged under the code of conduct, this is to be nullifed. The Royal Commission has asked the Tribhuvan University to communicate this to the concerned campus (?union).

The Royal Commission also instructed that in place of completing all credit hours within a period of 5 years, arrangements should be made for completing all credit hours of a 2-year course within 5 years and within 6 years for a 3-year course.

BISTA WARNS ANTISOCIAL ELEMENTS IN PRESS CONFERENCE

BK220425 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 21 May 79 BK

[Text] Prime Minister Mr Kirti Nidhi Bista has expressed the hope that campuses will reopen and normal academic activities will start from tomorrow as the students demands have been fulfilled. The prime minister made this observation at a press conference held at (Jalat Barkat) in Katmandu this afternoon.

Mr Bista said there was no problem which could not be tackled on the basis of understanding and good will. The prime minister made it clear that the duty of the students, teachers, guardians and politicians at this hour was to help create a favorable atmosphere and resumption of classes.

Mr Bista added that some incidents have taken place in the (?near past) arousing fears and apprehensions among the people. Mr Bista called on the press to help create a better atmosphere by circulating the news based on facts. Mr Bista added that his majesty's government would not only try to stop looting, arson and attacks on the policemen by antisocial elements, but also safeguard the property of the people by rooting out such elements.

AFP Gives Details

OW211905 Hong Kong AFP in English 1810 GMT 21 May 79 OW

[Text] Katmandu, May 21 (AFP)--Nepalese Prime Minister Kirti Nidhi Bista today deplored the anti-social activities launched by certain "undesirable elements" in some parts of the kingdom and warned that his government would not lag behind to crush them.

Addressing a press conference Premier Bista explained the current situation in the country and said "there has been certain incidents which have created fear, arson, shooting and attacking on police besides destroying the public properties by setting on fire."

He said "this sort of incident which has been started by the undesirable elements (which he did not name) would not only be stopped by his government but also will give full protection to the life and properties of the general public."

When asked to identify the "undesirable elements" Premier Bista said "I have not gone deep into the nature of people who had created the arson, looting at different places in Sirah and Janakpur districts". He however maintained that the political situation in the kingdom is not as serious as in 1962-63.

Premier Bista confirmed about 11 people died during the police actions at different places in the wake of students strike six weeks ago and that no students have been killed. He said altogether 164 persons including 110 policemen, 24 students and three general public sustained injuries during the police actions at different places including Hetauda and Bharatpur.

When asked if the current agitation of the peasants along with the students strike was the combination of their grievances against the land development tax of Nepalese Government Mr. Bista said "No". "I don't think it is the general reaction of people's discontentment".

He however explained to the press that "government would try to convince the peasants about the advantages of the land development tax which we introduced at the request of the local people. If the people really resent this taxation policy there should not be any objection to withdraw it".

Explaining about the current students' agitation and their major demands being fulfilled by the Tribhuan University Premier Bista hoped "the students would return to their classes from tomorrow peacefully".

PAKISTAN

UN TEAM ARRIVES TO STUDY AID FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES

BK190842 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 19 May 79 BK

[Text] A 2-member team of the UN High Commission for Refugees arrived in Islamabad this morning. The team will hold talks with Pakistani authorities on international aid for Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

Quoting official circles, the Radio Pakistan representative says that the team will tour refugees camps looked after by the Pakistan Government on humanitarian grounds. The team will study how the world community can ease Pakistan's burden in the light of existing problems faced by Pakistan.

PRC VICE MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY MEETS DEFENSE OFFICIALS

OW202015 Hong Kong AFP in English 2000 GMT 20 May 79 OW

[Text] Islamabad, May 20 (AFP)--Chinese Vice Minister for Industry Li Yutang today assured that his country would continue to support and cooperate with Pakistan in various fields.

Speaking at a meeting with officials of the Defence Production Ministry, here the leader of the visiting seven-member technical delegation expressed the hope that the two countries would benefit from each others' experience and achieve self-reliance in different areas.

However, he stressed that the "optimum results" could be achieved by concentrating on selected areas rather than "spreading our abundant manpower" and other resources thinly.

The Chinese team also held a meeting with Pakistan Defence Minister Ali Ahmed Talpur and visited Pakistan ordinance factories. Tomorrow they will attend the ground-breaking ceremony of a defence oriented Chinese aided factory at Wah Cantonment 30 km from here.

Later speaking at a dinner given by Defence Minister Ali Ahmed Talpur, Mr Li said the cooperation between China and Pakistan was based on equality, mutual interest and help. He said there is sincere friendship between China and Pakistan and the friendly co-operation between the peoples of the two countries would be further stabilised and promoted.

Defence Minister Talpur in his speech eulogised the help rendered by China in carrying out Pakistani projects. He thanked the Chinese for their assistance in technical fields adding that the mutual cooperation was based on traditional friendship between the two countries which was gaining momentum under the leadership of Chairman Hua.

Li Yutang on Pakistani Friendship

BK211639 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 21 May 79 BK

[Text] The visiting Chinese vice minister, Mr Li Yutang, laid the foundation stone of a factory in Wah cantonment this morning. He said Pakistan and China have been cooperating with each other in many fields and the two countries will continue their struggle against hegemonism. He said the people of the two countries have centuries-old ties between them, and the project is another example of their deeprooted and long-standing relations.

Mr Li Yutang said his country thinks highly of the friendship with Pakistan. He said his country cannot help Pakistan to the extent it wants because of the limited resources of his country.

Speaking on the occasion, the federal minister of defense, Mr Ali Ahmed Khan Talpur, said the deeprooted and sincere friendship between China and Pakistan will last forever. He said China has been providing [word indistinct] financial aid to Pakistan for the last few years. He said Chinese friends have supported the Pakistani people in all critical situations and we have been able to stand on our feet with their sincere assistance. The minister of defense said relations between the two countries will strengthen further.

The minister of defense announced that 300 housing units will be built for the employees of Pakistan ordnance factories, and a high school will be built for their children and their other problems will also be reviewed.

LEADER OF PAKISTAN PEOPLES PARTY RELEASED

OW212154 Paris AFP in English 1948 GMT 21 May 79 OW

[Text] Islamabad, May 21 (AFP)--General Tikka Khan, an important leader of former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto's Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) was released here today, it was officially announced.

Gen Tikka Khan, former chief of staff of the Pakistan Army and advisor to the ex-premier on defence was arrested under martial law orders in March 1978 for addressing a pro-Bhutto rally in Lahore. Party Secretary General Farooq Leghari was also released along with Gen Tikka Khan and several other regional leaders of the party, it was learnt.

Political leaders in the country have been demanding that cases against political leaders be withdrawn to create a conductive atmosphere for the general elections President Ziaul Haq has promised in November. However, Mr Bhutto's wife and daughter, who are under detention near here, have not been released so far.

Talking to newsmen at his residence Gen Tikka Khan expressed full confidence in the leadership of Mrs Nusrat Bhutto and denied rumours of any rift in the party. He said several attempts have been made to make the PPP "disintegrate".

He demanded the immediate release of Mrs Bhutto and her daughter Benezir.

Gen. Tikka Khan said that if the PPP was banned as a political party it would be a futile exercise because "we would unite again under a new name."

He opposed the holding of municipal elections before the general elections.

The retired general said that internal conditions and the situation on Pakistan's borders demanded that power should be returned to elected representatives as soon as possible.

SRI LANKA

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL WILL GET TRAINING FROM PAKISTAN

BK191131 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 19 May 79 BK

[Excerpt] Sri Lankan Air Force personnel are to be provided with specialized technical training by the Pakistani Air Force. These arrangements will be finalized in August this year during the planned visit of Pakistani Air Marshal Answar Shamim. This was announced by the commander of the Sri Lankan Air Force, Air Vice Marshal Harry Goonatilleke, at a news conference held yesterday.